



The Long Island ^{35¢} FISHERMAN

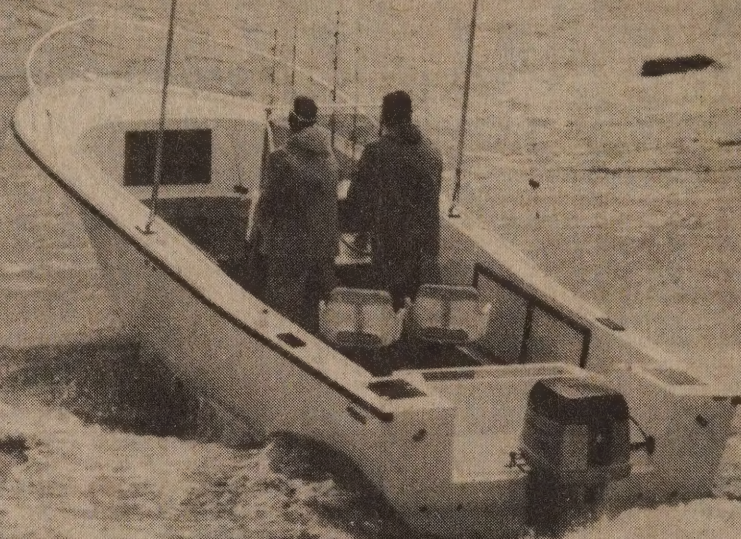
The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

JUNE 9th, 1977, ISSUE No. 21



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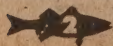
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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOL. 12, No. 21

JUNE 9th, 1977

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Mike Albronda gets ready to hook one of the 15 blue sharks taken at the Fish Tail aboard Capt. Paul Sundberg's charterboat MONTAUK last week.

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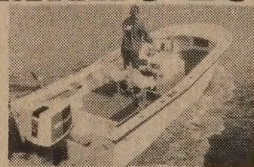
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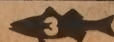
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EDITORIAL

CONFLICT

It's almost a traditional joke. One that's been handed down from generation to generation of fishermen. Actually, it's no joke at all. The fact that we fight amongst ourselves is probably one of the most important reasons why we frequently get pushed around.

I'll not entertain any notion either that our squabbles are merely family disagreements. These fishermen suggest that, as long as we keep our dirty laundry in the closet, all's well with the world.

Bull! When bridge fishermen drop rocks off a bridge that crash through a windshield and damage the driver, that is not a family spat. I also don't consider it a friendly disagreement when a boat fisherman tries to run over a surf fisherman just because the surf angler's casts would force the boatman to detour.

The scenes of conflict have actually been encouraged by those who view from the edge of the battlefield. Why not? If a productive patch of water can be vacated by promoting a little conflict, that just leaves more room for the S.O.B. who started the fight. It's smart strategy, and the creeps without ethics goad us into it. Politicians have used this strategy both on a local and national level to keep us at bay! Divide and conquer is the cliché.

But things are changing! The sportfishing advisory council, that most fishermen favor now, is a step in the right direction, but I'm sure that there will be a few ruffled feathers before the council is formed and gets down to work.

I'm not advocating a naive philosophy that disagreements do not arise from time to time. As the saying goes: things would get very boring if everybody agreed on everything all the time. Agreed! I don't suggest that each of us should learn to bite the bullet, and turn the other cheek. No, that's stupid. In fact, it's that kind of attitude, that pseudo-macho John Wayne approach to hardship, that causes anger to build up to the point where it explodes in violence.

There should always be forums where disagreement and differing points of view can be aired out without danger to life and limb. Certainly, there are many opportunities: fishing club meetings; conferences; letters to the editors of newspapers and fishing publications; in the back room of the tackle shop where a beer has been known to slide down a throat or two, and on the beach or dock when the fever is down—either before or after the battle with the beasts.

Why should there be conflict between us? We share too many things in common. We all catch fish, we pursue a common philosophy, we read and learn about our sport, we investigate the finer points of tackle, we are all craftsmen to one extent or another, we all have a healthy respect for the sea, we all want a cleaner and more abundant marine environment for the future, and collectively we represent a group that today is well over SIXTY MILLION strong!

That is a group, a force, to be reckoned with.

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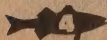
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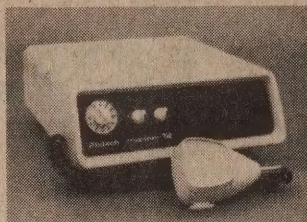
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CLUB NEWS

PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB** INC.

The Patchogue Fishing Club results of its annual Weakfish Boat Tournament, held at Heckscher May 14th and 15th were: First: Bill Caldwell - 8 lbs. 10½ oz.; Second: Carl Dippel, Jr., - 8 lbs. 8 oz.; Third: Terry Wentzel - 8 lbs. 4 oz.; Fourth: George Dietz - 8 lbs. 2 oz.

S.B.H.S. FISHING CLUB ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

The Sheepshead Bay High School Fishing Club is pleased to announce its new officers for this year. They are as follows:

Faculty Advisor: Will Daskal; President: Anthony Fasciano; Vice President: Victor Smith; Treasurer: William Morris; Short Judge: Allen Flanders; Hook Honer: Mike Frisch; Line Winder: Larry Goldbrum; Bait Inspector: Tim Howell; Sinkers Selector: Mike Reich; Editorials: Rich Rosenfeld; Snellor: Johnathan Schwartzman; Deck Technician: Marc Stern; Saltwater Analyst: Larry Wekselblatt; Freshwater Analyst: Ed Kelman; Species Selector: Lester Frankel; Tournament Coordinator: Will Daskal.

FREEPORT TUNA CLUB

The next meeting of the Freeport Tuna Club, Inc., will be held on Thursday, June 9, 1977, at the Freeport Yacht Club, So. Grove Street, Freeport, N.Y. The doors will be open at 8:00 P.M. The meeting will be called to order at 8:30 P.M.

Thanks to the efforts of Jiggs Silber, we have arranged to have Al Ristori, as our guest speaker. In his position of Field Representative for Garcia Corporation, he has fished worldwide. With his roots deep in our waters, he will be helpful to the novice, as well as the expert.

He has devoted a great deal of his time to **conservation**. He has served as President of "Save Our Stripers," is one of the Founders of Striped Bass Fund, and a member of the Regional Fishing Management Council of the 200 Mile Limit Bill. He has written many articles on Fishing and Conservation, for all the major fishing publications.

EAST ROCKAWAY ANGLERS

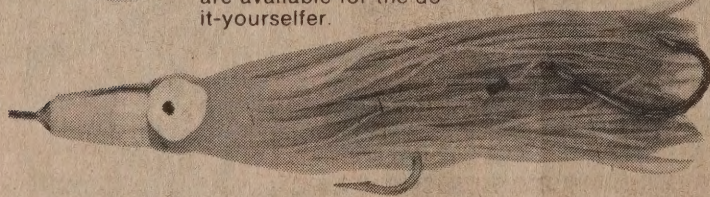
Our wishes for a speedy recovery to Mr. Jim Abrams, who is recovering at home from a bad operation. Get well, Jim.

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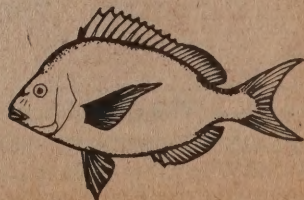
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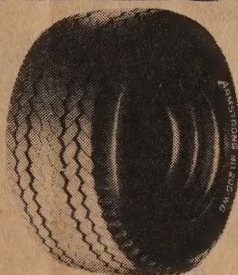
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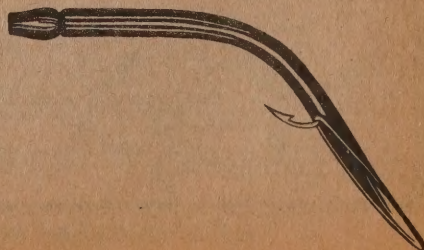
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BOATING

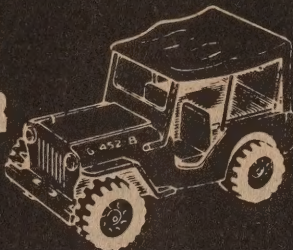
OUTBOARD SKIPPERS CLUB

"The Outboard Skippers Club of the South Shore Power Squadron will hold its monthly meeting at the American Savings Bank, Modell's Shopping Center, Hempstead Turnpike and Newbridge Avenue, East Meadow on Monday, June 13, 1977, at 8:00 PM. A talk on First Aid will be presented. All outboarders and inboard-outboarders are invited to attend.



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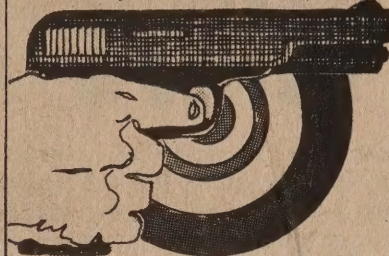
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EPA STARTS BEACH POLLUTION "HOT LINES"

The regional U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) office here announced that toll-free "hot lines" are operational today (May 16th) to allow anyone to report sightings of fish kills and debris wash-ups along New Jersey and New York ocean coasts this summer. The number in New Jersey is (800) 272-1108; in New York (800) 631-5216 has been established. Information on conditions of local beaches should still be obtained from local health departments.

The lines connect with EPA's command post at its Edison (N.J.) Water Quality Laboratory where an intergovernmental response team can initiate a clean-up or other corrective action.

The phone lines are part of a \$100,000 expansion of EPA's monitoring program

to prevent or get an early warning of any ocean pollution incidents, such as the debris wash-ups on Long Island beaches last June, and the fish kill which plagued New Jersey during the summer.

EPA is coordinating a multi-Federal, state, and local environmental agency effort to increase ocean sampling by helicopter and boat, use of both sophisticated monitoring devices and citizen response, as well as tightened control of potential sources of pollution.

LENT OFFERS BOATING BOOKLETS

Memorial Day Weekend marks the unofficial start of the summer water sports season and Congressman Norman F. Lent is offering three free booklets to

help insure a safe boating summer.

"For the safety of their passengers, pleasure boat skippers should prepare to handle any possible emergency," Lent said. "These booklets can tell you about required safety equipment and how to call for help."

The three booklets: "A Pocket Guide to Visual Distress Signals"; "Federal Requirements for Recreational Boats"; and "Marine Communications for the Boating Public," are available free of charge to residents of the Fourth Congressional District who call Lent's local office at (516) 223-1616.

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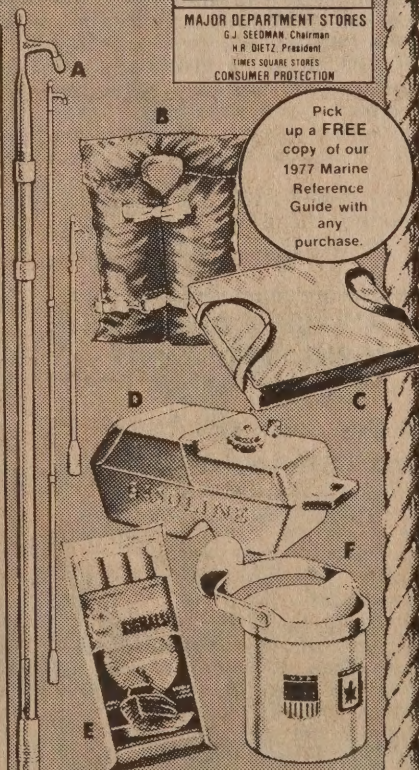
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Fish Talk

with Dr. W.A. Muller

FLUKE

Paralichthys dentatus

PART THREE

LIFE CYCLE. Fluke spawn in deep water on the Continental Shelf between late Fall and early Spring. Little is known about the precise time of spawning, or about the number of eggs that each fish lays during the spawning period because of the difficulty of investigation in 50 to 55 fathoms of water, when the ocean temperature may be as cold as thirty to thirty-five degrees Fahrenheit. However, spawning occurs over relatively unsheltered bottom which would suggest that the fish are very prolific. High egg and fry mortality are characteristic of open bottom spawnings. We do not know whether the eggs float or sink, although again, it would seem likely that they stay near the bottom where they were deposited.

DEVELOPMENT PROCEEDS. When a fluke hatches, it resembles many other fish. That is, the eyes are in a conventional position. By the time the fish reach a length of about one inch, the right eye has completed a migration and now the fry looks like a flatfish. At this time, the fish begins its bottom-hugging life style. We do not know when the young fluke begin a shore-ward migration for the first time; but a good guess would be either the second or the third year.

ADULT FISH ARE TRAVELERS. Each Spring, the adults swim inshore where they will feed in shallow water.

They arrive close to the beach in late April, and some fish will be taken on rod and reel as early as this time. However, even though many fish are present, most will not take a bait—especially the larger fish. However, commercial draggers take the fish in large quantities in late April. At that time of the year, the water temperature is usually in the low to mid-fifties and the fish are sluggish. However, by early May, many fish will be caught on hook and line, especially in shallow bays where the water temperature may be in the low to mid-sixties. Deep water fishing areas in the ocean will not begin to produce until late May or early June.

A SMALL FISH WILL USUALLY BEAT A BIG ONE TO THE BAIT. Like most game fish, the young fish which are growing more rapidly and which depend upon small food, are more aggressive. Perhaps this accounts for the fact that most of the big fluke are taken in late Summer and early Fall. By then, the fluke are feeding heavily to build-up food reserves for the long cold winter on the Continental Shelf. However, many fluke fishermen concentrate on the theory that big baits catch big fluke, and by patiently dragging whole squid, live snappers, smelt, and large strip-baits over bottom that has produced big fluke in the past, they score on doormats consistently.

IN THE FALL THE PATTERN REVERSES. When the water temperature begins to edge downward, the fluke begin to leave the shallow water, which cools more quickly, and swim into the coastal ocean. In September, many excellent catches of fluke are made on offshore wrecks and sand bars. The speed with which they make their retreat into the depths depends upon how fast the water cools and the number of early season coastal storms. Here, the bass fishermen and the fluke fishermen are at odds. The fluke fan wants a calm, mild Fall, while the bass nut can't wait for the cold fronts and line storms. One man's meat is another man's poison.

PREDICTABLE, BUT UNPREDICTABLE. Boy, would I like to crawl inside the brain of a fluke for a few minutes and find out what makes them tick. Not only so I would be able to catch more of them, although that would be nice, but also because I'm curious about why their movements are so erratic. Also, are all of the western Atlantic fluke wintered in one small window area? Draggers take fluke during the winter months off Rhode Island, New York, and New Jersey, in deep water. But down at Cape Hatteras, they catch fluke for most of the winter right from the beach. Do the Cape Hatteras fluke spawn in shallow water?

Ah, sweet mysteries of life, someday we'll find you!

TAGGING STUDIES RAISE MORE QUESTIONS. It seems that once the fish arrive in shallow water, they stay put and become residents as long as the food supply holds up. But each winter trip to the offshore grounds opens up the possibilities of where the fish will make landfall next Summer. For example: a ten-inch fluke, caught by A. Barrett at Great Kills, N.Y. on June 29, 1975 was recaptured by a commercial dragger on February 13, 1976 off Newport, R.I. A thirteen-inch fluke caught by R. Hunt at Fire Island, N.Y. on August 25, 1975, was recaptured on May 27, 1976 near Gay Head, Va. A fourteen-inch fluke was caught on July 5, 1973 by D. Klosek, Jones Inlet, N.Y., and caught again by D. Miles on May 24, 1974 at Nantucket Island, Mass.

WITHIN-YEAR RETURNS TELL A DIFFERENT STORY. However, the overwhelming majority of fluke that were tagged, released, and then recaptured during that same Summer season, were caught within a stone's throw of the initial catch. Most often, a fish caught and released in one bay, harbor, inlet, or sound, is recaptured in that same body of water; but there are exceptions. Take, for example, the fourteen-inch fluke caught by E. Feret At Freeport, N.Y. on August 20, 1975. Twelve days later that fish was caught by D. Rasquell at Port Jefferson, N.Y. Why? Why should tens of thousands of other fluke stay in the same place, while this adventure seeker swam almost 150 miles in twelve days! Or even better, another fourteen-inch courageous fluke swam from Great South Bay, N.Y. on June 21, 1975 to Martha's Vineyard, Mass., where it was caught on September 18, 1975!

THE ELUSIVE DOORMAT. Many fishermen came up to me at this year's boat show to ask about the world's record fluke that was mounted on the wall of the exhibition booth. Some were convinced that it wasn't real. Rest assured that it was real. "But how can I catch one like that?" they would ask. When I would ask them how they did their fluke fishing, invariably they would say with killie and squid strip, or spearing, or sand eels. Big fluke are taken with large baits; so my last words of advice are to begin thinking about such outlandish approaches as live snapper bait, whole rigged squid, and live tinker mackerel if you can find them!

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CONSERVATION COMMENTS *by Al Ristori*

Giant tuna regulations, similar to those imposed last year, have already been announced. However, the giant tuna may be in a lot more trouble than we at first expected—due to large catches made by Japanese longliners in the Gulf of Mexico this winter and spring. While American fishermen—both sport and commercial—will be limited to 2,000 giants (plus an additional allowance for the purse seine fleet), it appears that a record Japanese fleet of over 70 longliners has already taken far more giants in their wintering grounds. This is due to a loophole in the 200 Mile Limit Bill, which exempts tuna from our national jurisdiction.

The exemption of tuna was a sop to the West Coast tuna industry which fought 200 Mile legislation all the way. Though the Conte Amendment restricted the definition of "highly migratory oceanic fish" to tunas, that exemption has come back to haunt us in our efforts to prevent foreign fishing on the bill-fish stocks. As previously reported, our informal meetings with the Japanese longliners resulted in a pledge from them that they'd try to avoid catching bill-fish by setting their lines lower, and releasing any bill-fish that were hooked. Initial reports indicate that the Japanese are living up to this agreement, even though no management plan for bill-fish has been put into effect as yet.

The problem is that, due to different interpretations of the law by the State Department, Commerce Department, and the Councils, we have no real control of the Japanese longline fleet. At present, they can operate in waters as close as three miles, without licenses or supervision. The Coast Guard can only

make courtesy inspections when the longliners consent. Though the Japanese seem to be observing our informal agreement so far, it's obvious that our inability to properly monitor the situation is a potential problem. This is particularly a problem in that any other country can start longlining in our waters at any time. The Republic of China and South Korea have large longlining fleets in other parts of the world, and could be attracted to the Atlantic Coast. The proposed fishery agreement with Cuba contains a request from the Cubans that they not be restricted in their longlining in our waters—a good indication that they're thinking about it!

The State Department feels that any foreigner longlining for tuna is exempt from our jurisdiction, even though he may be taking other species in the process. Naturally, the Councils feel that since we have control of bill-fish under the Act, we should be able to control the fisheries that catch them—even incidentally to their target species. This has resulted in a standoff. The National Marine Fisheries Service has a Preliminary Bill-fish Management Plan ready, but has been holding off on implementation because of the problem with the State Department interpretation of the law.

At the latest meeting of the Inter-Council Bill-fish Steering Committee, in St. Petersburg, Florida, a resolution was passed asking NMFS to institute the preliminary plan as quickly as possible, while the South Atlantic Council prepares its final bill-fish plan. Hopefully, the draft of that plan will shortly be available in order that hearings may begin this summer.

At this point, it's perfectly obvious that the tuna exemption in the act is causing a lot of problems that hadn't been anticipated. The Mid-Atlantic Council has already passed a resolution calling for a change in the law to remove that exemption. My motion at the Inter-Council Bill-fish Steering Committee to request such a motion from the other councils, was unanimously adopted. Even if the Japanese do abide by their agreement on bill-fish, we still have the giant tuna problem. Hopefully, there will soon be more information about just how extensive the slaughter of those valuable brood fish was this winter.

Don't forget the next meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council. It will be held at the Southampton Inn, 91 Hill Street, Southampton, L.I., June 15th-17th. Visitors are welcome! Most business will be conducted between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., except on June 17th, when the meeting will end at Noon. A public hearing on the surf clam plan will be held from 7:30-9:30 p.m. on June 16th.



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NATURAL BAITS

Spearing in the Spotlight

by Frank Berrafato

Any angler who has threaded the rock-strewn shoreline along Long Island Sound, or the sandy South Shore ocean beaches, has probably come across schools of fast-moving, small silver fish—commonly known as spearing, or silversides (*Menidia menidia*). The species is found from Maine to the Carolinas, and fishermen in various regions have referred to this bait fish as shiner, whitebait, saltwater minnow, capelin, green smelt, and sand smelt. His presence in our local waters constitutes an important part in the diet of many game fish—particularly snappers and snapper bluefish. An in-depth look at the spearing's life style, habits, methods of capture, and presentation as bait, will enable the angler to use this bait fish more effectively.

We are dealing with a slender, little fish which can attain a length of about five to five-and-a-half inches, although most anglers encounter spearing between three and four inches in length. His physical appearance is not striking—his large eyes being the most dominant feature. His slim body is covered with large scale, and he takes on a translucent appearance. However, upon closer examination, a live spearing will show a greenish-silver, to dark green coloring on back and upper sides, speckled with brown. Coloring fades to silvery or white on the lower sides and belly, and a narrow silver band is highlighted by a thin black line along the upper edge, extending the length of each side.

Spearing will frequent any type of shoreline—bays, coves, inlets, harbors, and surf, and will even venture into the brackish water of tidal river mouths. At the high tidal stage, they will frequent shallow creeks, and swim among patches of eelgrass along the shore, often followed by predator fish—particularly snappers and fluke. They will disperse, jumping in all directions, as the predators chase them from beneath, following them with slashing jaws.

In some ways, the spearing is similar to the killie fish. For example, they rove in close formation in groups of considerable size, making themselves susceptible to capture in large quantities, with a simple hand seine in shallow water. Gathering them appears to be easier at night, when they come close to shore, and they can readily be attracted to an area by shining a light into the water.

Another way of capturing spearing is to use an umbrella, or dip net from a high elevation, such as a bridge, pier, or dock. The net can be lowered under a

school of bait fish which, naturally, will quickly scatter. But if the angler waits until they slowly re-group and swim over the net again, he will usually succeed in scooping up some of the bait fish. However, it is sometimes difficult to see these small fish from any considerable elevation, so it is usually a hit-and-miss situation when employing this method.

The spearing also resembles the killie fish in that both are omnivorous feeders, and can be taken in minnow traps baited with crabs, clams, or crushed mussels—any type of attractor which will allow the currents to carry the juices to traveling schools of bait fish. A slice of white bread is also a good attractor, because of its color. An umbrella or dip net can be baited to entice these bait fish.

Like most other bait fish, spearing are a delicate fish, and difficult to keep alive. They die quickly when taken out of water, or when confined to a pail or other container. When fishing with spearing, this writer prefers to capture his bait fish as he uses them. When alive, the spearing's body is hard, and they are easy to use as a bait.

The angler can purchase spearing, either fresh or frozen, from various bait and tackle shops, boat stations and many fish markets. Not only do fish eat spearing, but evidently people eat them,

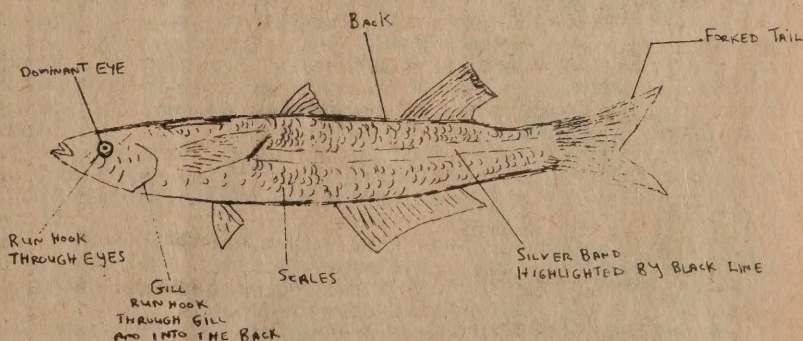
too. I have seen people eat spearing right from the net—alive—as they capture them. A popular way to eat spearing is to fry them.

When using dead spearing, keep them frozen, or on ice. They are fragile, and when they become soft, it is difficult to keep them on a hook. There are two ways of placing spearing on the hook. The first way, as with the sand eel, is to hook them through the eyes, the strongest part of their skeleton. I prefer this method; it presents the fish in a natural way, without being twisted up. Another method is to run the hook into the mouth and out of the gill opening, and then once more through the back near the tail. This method has the advantage of getting the short biters—those fish which do not take the whole bait. Some anglers will also cut up a large spearing into two or three pieces for small fish.

There are many ways of fishing the spearing. One can drift spearing from a boat for fluke, or you can bottom rig them for eels, sea bass, or cod. You can fish them on top with a float, or freeline them from a bridge or pier for snappers or snapper bluefish.

The spearing is an important natural bait fish, and any angler who fishes Long Island waters should be aware of their use, and potential as fish attractors.

FISHERMAN'S SKETCH OF THE SPEARING



F.B.

We noted last week that many expert fluke fishermen devote much effort to experimentation. I've watched them for some time and if there's the remotest possibility of a homemade gadget putting fish in the bucket, they'll give it a whirl. Nothing fazes them.

Hence, they dream-up the most outlandish rigs imaginable. You may be sure, too, that these fellows care little about their brainchild's overall appearance.

I've watched them design extremely handsome-looking rigs, but if these rigs fail in their purpose, out they go. And by the same token, they will carefully fashion weird-looking contraptions, contraptions most fishermen would feel didn't have a ghost of a chance, but if the fish accept them, that's all that matters.

These experts have found from this experience that all is not gold that glitters.

Therefore, if you want your share of fluke this summer, take a tip from these master fishermen and don't be fooled by the many eye-appealing rigs on the market.

Don't fall for the shiny hardware, the bright spinner blades, and whatever else is dreamed up to part from your hard-earned buck. There are places to use these rigs, of course—but a shallow water bay in June isn't one of them.

Accept an extra tip from me, too. Keep your fluke rigs plain and simple.

Want to know what my basic fluke rig consists of? Nothing more than a three-foot, twenty-pound test mono leader to which has been snelled a 4/0 Sproat hook. What could be less elaborate than that? I hope you'll believe it when I tell you I've caught thousands of fluke with this simple rig.

Remember, a fluke rig will only catch fish if the fisherman behind it knows exactly what he's doing. I don't care how much a rig is guaranteed to put a dent in the fluke population, if the fisherman doesn't know how to use it, he might as well leave it in the tackle box.

Harsh words? Perhaps, but if you hope to catch fluke this summer, take my words to heart. I kid you not. You know the old saw: Ten percent of the fishermen catch ninety percent of the fish. Believe me, it isn't said in jest. Every word is true.

Let me say too, that I'm well aware there are fishermen who may not agree with me in all things, but nothing is set down here that hasn't worked for me time and again. These methods will work for you. Use them. They are the result of many years of trial and error.

Let's see how to go about putting more hopeful fluke fishermen into that choice ten percent category.

The most important part of any fisherman's rig is the hook. Everything else is but an aid to get that thin, curved bit of tempered steel into the fish's mouth. Every dyed-in-the-wool fisherman I know is a hook fanatic. He always has been and always will be. Therefore, it will pay all beginning fishermen to devote much attention to hook selection. Learn proper hook sizes and patterns and I guarantee you will soon tread the narrow pathway to that desired ten percent.

There is a standard fluke hook on the market. It is a long-shanked, and usually of the Carlisle pattern. Its size for fluke ranges from 2/0 to 6/0, with 3/0 to 5/0 being most popular.

You won't find me using these hooks in June, however. I use this particular hook only in late summer and early fall when wreck fishing for doormats. Give me a regular-shanked 4/0 Sproat for bays, inlets, and ocean beaches—always!

When Sproats aren't available, I use regular-shanked 5/0 Limericks. These are similar in appearance and work well. The only fault I find with this hook is that it is slightly heavier than the Sproat. But I suppose this is only my fussiness asserting itself.

Why am I so fussy about hook weight? This applies to the use of spinners too. Well, to my mind, hook weight is one of the secrets of successful fluke fishing. Fluke are predators;

they hunt for their food. Which means they expect to see their intended victims moving in the normally accepted manner. This is the main reason drifting and keeping the bait moving is better than still fishing.

Any bait that appears tethered to the bottom or suffering lack of natural motion, will cause watchful fluke to have second thoughts about its legitimacy. Surely, they must realize something is wrong. And when they do, they seek greener pastures. It's as simple as that.

Therefore, when fishing the bays, be advised to use a spinner-less rig consisting of a short-shanked hook and watch your catch increase. It will. Take my word for it.

For June fluke, I believe a three-foot leader is best. If you can't locate this length, use a two-footer, but waste no time getting in touch with Midland Tackle Company, 66 Route 17, Slootsburg, New York 10974, and request their free catalog. They list leader material in 47" lengths.

When snelled with the hook of your choice, and finished with a Perfection Loop, your leader will be 36" long. You can also cut the strand down and add a commercially-snelled hook and come up with any length desired.

Incidentally, Midland also offers a "Fast Knot Tyer." I've never used one, but this may be just what the doctor ordered for those fishermen who wish to make up their own rigs without bothering with the snelling knot.

When your rig is completed, place it on the main line by forming a one-inch loop made with a double-overhand knot. About three inches above the sinker will do. A three-way swivel may be used, but is seldom necessary except in swift currents. (And what are you fishing there for, anyway?)

Because fluke are predators, fishermen have a varied selection of bait from which to choose. Some baits produce better in some areas than others. For example, when fishing around inlets, sand eels are top bait. But when fishing inside bays, nothing beats a lively, light-green killy about two inches long. Especially is this so when fishing over mud bottom.

Some fishermen hook the killy through the lips, but this should only be done when the drift is slow or when fishing areas where careful jigging is required to avoid being hung-up, as when fishing close to jetties. Nor is it a good idea to lip-hook a killy when casting to reach the fish, as when shore fishing. The chances of snapping off the killy before it enters the water is great.

It is better to run the hook through the mouth and out the gill cover. When fluke seize lip-hooked killies in the process of being jigged off bottom, they're easily stolen. By hooking through the gill cover, the fluke must engulf the hook as well as the bait.

I've often noticed inexperienced fluke fishermen sometimes defeat their own purpose by using outsized baits. I can understand why too. They take note of that enormous mouth and figure the bigger the bait they use, the larger the fluke they'll catch. Except under certain conditions, which are rarely found in the bays, big baits don't necessarily mean big fish. I once caught an eleven pounder with a two-inch killy while fishing aboard the Capt. Eric out of Captree. And I've caught a multitude of four and five pounders using the same size bait. Always stick to medium-sized baits when bay fishing for fluke.

When killies are hard to come by, freshly frozen spearing and sand eels are good. Run the hook through the head, and again about the middle of the body, making sure to leave the hook exposed. It is important that this bait be natural-looking. If it bunches up or slides down the shank of the hook, it leaves much to be desired. This is a tall order, especially when the bait is soft, and is one of the reasons I prefer strips of fish bait.

To my way of thinking, no better fish bait exists than well-prepared strips of sea robin. There are times when this is all I ever use—especially fishing out east in Shinnecock Bay where gluttonous fluke devour it with gusto.

You'll find sea robin strips tough, yet supple and difficult to remove from the hook—for both you and the fish. It's not unusual to nail a half-dozen fluke with one bait before it becomes too ragged for continued use. This applies particularly when fishing Shinnecock's East Channel near the inlet.

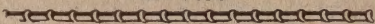
Sea robin preparation is quick and easy. Don't scale. Leaving the scales on makes each strip highly resistant to clever bait-stealers. A word of caution: To be on the safe side,

Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

JUNE FLUKE

Part Two



handle sea robins with gloves. Those spines are wicked.

To prepare, use a sharp knife and make a cut to the backbone, just aft of the vent. Slice along the bone to the tail and remove. Repeat on the other side, then cut each piece in half, lengthways. This will give you two light and two dark pieces. Use the dark pieces over known sand bottom and the light ones over mud.

If you can force yourself to do it, cutting fluke belly into three-inch strips makes excellent bait. But don't be tempted to use shorts—those fish under fourteen inches. Not only is this illegal, you'll help defeat the purpose of a good law, a law needed to insure a future supply of fluke for all.

Fluke belly works wonders when used with a live killy. If you decide on this combination bait, it's best to place the strip on the hook first, with the white side out; then add the killy. There are two reasons for this: The killy is well-defined against the white background, and if you wish to refreshen or replace a tired killy, it isn't necessary to remove the fish bait, which can be a pain in the tail. For this purpose, and at today's prices, it is best to carefully remove the fish and return it to the killy car for rejuvenation.

All light-colored fish baits, such as fluke belly and squid, are best used over sand bottom. When used over mud, they soon become dirty. Bait in this condition attracts few fluke. If necessary to fish over mud, remember to change every fifteen minutes, or as soon as it becomes stained with sediment. It makes all the difference in the world.

Fish baits should be hooked once, and once only, through the widest part. Doing this gives the fish-shaped appearance needed for successful fishing. You will find that when using fish strips it isn't necessary to jig as rapidly as when using live

baits.

Because those baits will be three to four inches long, it is important that the fluke be given time to munch a bit before attempting to set the hook. When this is done, you'll find the fish has hooked itself.

I mentioned in part one that I've caught fluke in thirty feet of water one day and the next have hooked them in as little as eighteen inches. This was written to show how fluke will prowel wherever they suspect food is available. But for general all-around fishing, you'll find it is best to stick to the 15 to 20 foot depths. Fish the edge of channels, too, and at the tail-end of sand bars, especially on the rising tide.

A moving bait is best. I've seen fluke caught on a dead line more than once, but your chances of connecting are always better when the bait is given action. When drifting in a boat, keep that bait hopping in short spurts.

When anchored, cast as far as possible and work the bait back either by slowly reeling it along the bottom, or by jiggling and reeling in the slack. Of the two approaches, I believe jiggling is more successful.

A chum pot filled with ground mossbunker works well when at anchor. When this is used, it is best to jiggle it occasionally and fish near it. Give the bait plenty of action.

Shore fishermen account for many fluke and the methods just described will produce well—with the possible exception of the chum pot. Fluke must be hunted and the shore fisherman is at a disadvantage if he doesn't keep moving after giving each area a fair try. If one fluke is caught, he should stick it out. More will follow.

These methods will produce June fluke for you, have no fear. Oh...I forgot one thing: Bring a net. You'll need it!

Why your line should glow when you're fishing for bluefish.

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The line you see is the line you control.



So, we're not talking about some hairy critter ready to be shorn to make a birthday sweater. We're also not talking about a bunch of grouchy old-timers roaming the north shore beaches by night. Instead, I refer to the last of a dying breed of surf fishermen—the North Shore Goats!

Why are they called the North Shore Goats? Good question. Have you ever taken a good look at the north shore shoreline? I mean the productive locations. Well, they look like a squadron of planes dropped a bomb bay full of rocks, instead of bombs. The places that produce striped bass most consistently, are rock-strewn obstacle courses, and the surf fishermen that fish them regularly have to be mountain goats in order to negotiate them in safety.

But the rocks are not the only obstacle in the surf fisherman's path to success. Access to the north shore beach front is difficult and it's getting worse all the time. Some of the very best places are in the back yards of private homes. Still, friends of friends, and a cordial introduction can get you in, and if diplomacy isn't your strong suit, there are still a number of public beaches open to the surf angler.

Many town beaches are open only to residents after Memorial Day, and before Labor Day, but there are still enough places where light-use pressure permits loose enforcement of town regulations. Look around and you'll be surprised at what's available. I'm not going to offer a list in this column for several reasons; not the least of which are the wrath of fellow North Shore Goats, and the fact that listing access is not the theme of this week's column. Suffice it to say, that an angler can discover much through simple investigation—the old trial-and-error method. For those that favor the more direct approach, there are a number of north shore angling clubs who, from time to time, seek out new members. Check the Club News column in *The Fisherman* for membership invitations.

The purpose of this column is to generate more enthusiasm about north shore surf fishing. Many surf fishermen hold a limited and small opinion of the potential of north shore surf fishing. To many of these guys, the Sound is a place to "play" in the early Spring when nobody really expects to land any cows anyway. Well, that's the first mistake. Point fish—those over fifteen pounds for the neophyte—are taken in Long Island Sound on a regular basis beginning in late April. Most of these fish are teen fish, with an occasional fish in the twenties to spice up the action.

Furthermore, unlike the south shore late Spring hotspots, these fish can be taken on plugs, and the worms and bunker can stay put—either at home, or in the bait store. Thank goodness for small favors.

Some of the most effective plugs are the Junior Atom; the medium-sized Danny Plugs, and especially the Red-Fins and Rebels. In my mind, when I think of Long Island Sound and its quiet, tranquil evenings, with mirror surface waters, I think of floating Rebels. The scene is ideally set for these plugs. The quiet waters allow the floating swimmers to leave a wake; the ever-present tidal movements swing the baits in an enticing arch—especially on the ebb tide, and the shape of these plugs are frequently a perfect match to the bait fish that are available as food.

Many surf fishermen scoff at the Red-Fins and Rebels. To them, these plugs are for the beginner; but, like every quality product, there is a time and a place for everyone. Long Island Sound is definitely one of the best places for these swimmers. Many surf fishermen believe that the Swedish-style swimmers only catch small fish. Well, if you are fishing in a place where small fish are the rule, you can bet your bottom dollar that you'll catch small fish.

I'm reminded of a story that Rich Reina told about a former editor of this publication, Don Miller. For those of you

who are unfamiliar with Mr. Miller's skills, he was known as one of the best of the western Sound bass sharpies. I say was, because he now lives in Florida, and has taken up a new hobby: driving snook and tarpon bananas! Anyway, when Rich started fishing with Don, he was amazed by Don's seeming lack of patience. Don would pull the boat into a likely little cove and begin throwing plugs toward the beach. More often than not, the school fish would rush to the plugs and, at least in Don's mind, make a pest of themselves. He'd growl, quickly pull anchor, and move to another spot. To most of us, that seems like a crazy thing to do. The way things have been lately, we're happy to catch any cooperative fish, regardless of species or size. But Don Miller's logic was flawless, and those of us who hunt for big fish should take a lesson from his habits.

Big fish are lethargic. When the little fish are around, it is unlikely that the big fish will be able to out-compete the schoolies for a meal. Some surfmen have countered this problem by only throwing plugs big enough for "Mr. Jaws" himself. But there is a problem with this solution. Sometimes the bass, fish of all sizes, are feeding upon small bait. Thus, when a Goodyear Blimp comes ambling by, it is ignored. The surfmen catch nothing, and leave convinced that there are no bass in that location.

So I have another solution: leave those Rebels and Red-Fins attached to your line, especially if you have reason to believe that these artificials match the hatch.

Pick yourself up and move the body to another spot. Sometimes a move of only a few hundred or thousand feet is sufficient to take you out of the schoolies; keep you in the bait zone, and within casting range of some magnificent fish. I know how hard it is to leave feeding fish. I understand, I understand. But, if you want big fish, it is a habit that you will have to learn!

Don Miller used it to perfection, which is why his tally for

Surf Side

with
Doc Muller

The North Shore Goats



As W. C. Fields would say: "Behold the miracle floating swimmers!" Rebels and RedFins are dynamite in the North Shore surf.



Here's me making like a mountain goat on my way home.

the day often included a few cows.

Other hints may also help you score. Although I absolutely abhor bunker for surf fishing, I do make one exception. Large schools of bunker are frequent visitors to north shore beaches in late Spring and early Summer, and the big bass are usually not far away. As a matter of fact, you'll be able to see big bass knocking the &#8?## out of schools of bunker on most quiet evenings. Therefore, I carry a snagging treble hook in my lure bag at all times: a 7/0 weighted treble hook.

When the bunker and their attending pod of bass pass close by my location, I attach the snatch hook and cast it into the school of bunker. When I snag one, I let it swim around for a few minutes. If a bass doesn't respond to the panicked flight of the bunker, I'll reel it in, attach the bait fish to a 5/0 treble hook, and cast it back out to sea—usually behind the school of bunker. I hook the bunker in the mouth by forcing two prongs of the treble through the roof of the mouth and the third prong through the center of the lower jaw. This kind of bunker fishing is enjoyable because there's no lugging smelly baits from home to car to beach. The baits are as fresh as you can get, and the bass love 'em.

Why not give the north shore a try. The good action usually lasts well into July (also a little known fact), and the gnats are usually tolerable until mid to late July.



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STRIPED BASS FISHING

PART THREE—Other Artificials that take Bass

by Captain Ron Onorato

In last week's article, we took a brief look at some of the many plugs on the market that have been successful in taking bass. In addition to the plugs, there is a large array of various types of other lures that will take bass on many occasions. These artificial lures include bucktail jigs of all sizes; shiny metal lures; plastic eels, and spoons of assorted shapes and sizes. In this article, we'll deal with these lures to be used when casting from a boat, as it should be noted that many of these lures will also work quite well for the troller.

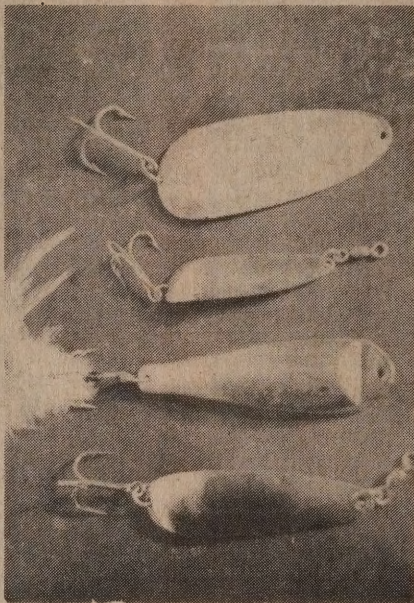
Before moving into the various lures themselves, the angler should take a look at the conditions under which he will be fishing, and where he will be fishing. Will you be fishing the quiet, shallow bays of the North Shore for school bass, or will you be casting in fast tide rip for bigger fish? You'll have to take a common sense approach to the situation and determine your needs from there.

The first group of lures that we'll take a look at are the bucktail jigs. If there was one lure that was available to the caster for shallow water fishing, the bucktail jig would surely be the choice of many. The jig is one of the finest school fish producers of all time, and in addition, will occasionally take larger fish.

As the name implies, the bucktail jig is a leadheaded jig with a quantity of bucktail tied to the end of the jig. These jigs can be purchased virtually anywhere, though many anglers like to make up their own by getting molds and pouring their own heads. The technique of making bucktails has been explained in many past articles, so it will not be discussed at this point. More recently, many jig manufacturers have been substituting the deer hair with synthetic nylons, and they will work—but for some reason, the actual bucktail seems to be more productive.

For whatever reason, most fishermen tend to favor big jigs for their casting. In some cases, this may be necessary, but in most cases, a tiny jig will be far more productive. For whatever reason the bass hits a jig, it seems to hit a smaller jig more readily than a bigger jig. This case was demonstrated a few years back when the North Shore was loaded with school bass. Two of us were casting 3/4 ounce white bucktails on the West Side of Hempstead Harbor with absolutely no action. We switched to 3/8 ounce white jigs, and though they are difficult to cast, they produced a good number of fish.

In order to be prepared for all



An assortment of big spoons for casting.

situations you might encounter, you should have a variety of jigs in different weights and colors. The most effective sizes seem to be the 3/8 or 1/2 ounce and 3/4 ounce size in all white or red-and-white bucktail. Yellow is sometimes a good color as is all-blue, with the all-blue jig being most effective around blush light at dawn and dusk. When conditions such as deep water and fast currents, call for getting the jig down deep, a one or two ounce jig may be needed. The adding of a small strip of pork rind to the jig enhances its action in most cases. If you're using the real tiny jigs, then it pays to fish the jig straight sometimes. As a rule, start out with the smaller jigs, and work your way up to the heavier ones if the midget jigs don't produce.

The strength of the current and the depth of the current will dictate how to work the jig. For the most part, the jig will be working deep. If you're casting up on the North Shore where the water is shallow and current light, the jig is retrieved almost immediately after its cast. When the water is deeper, you'll allow the jig to settle a bit before retrieving it. The retrieve can be a steady one, or you can raise and lower the rod tip and give it quick hops from time to time. Vary the retrieve until the right combination is found.

The second largest grouping of lures is

the metal lure group. In the old days, the metal lure that was most widely used was the block tin squid. This metal lure didn't really imitate a squid, but rather a sand eel or butterfish. The flashy jig was cast and retrieved rapidly, and the dull lustre was a very effective finish. Today these squids are rarely seen any longer. They are replaced by such lures as the Hopkins stainless steel lure or the Kastmaster lure. The old block tin is just not around and has become very scarce.

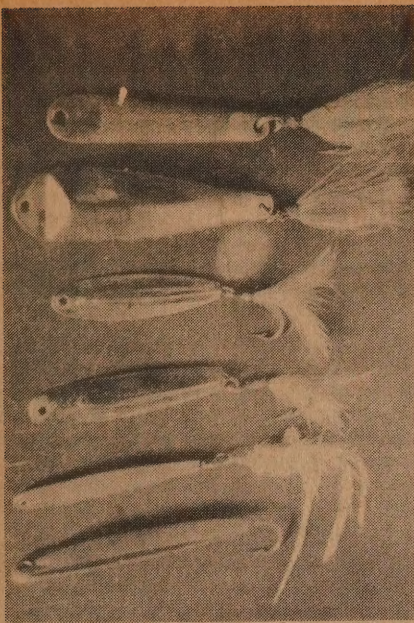
The larger of the metal lures, since they may weigh two or more ounces, are best employed on those grounds where long casts are needed, and the water is pretty deep. If the fish are feeding on big sand eels, these lures are very effective when cast and retrieved quickly. The idea behind these metal lures is to give the bass a glance at the lure—not a long look; hence the need for a fast retrieve in most cases. As the water gets shallow, the heavier lures lose their effectiveness, mainly because they sink too quickly and foul on the bottom before they can be retrieved.

When there is an infusion of such bait fish as spearing or silversides, smaller versions of the same bigger metal lures can be deadly. Many years ago, when the North Shore was loaded with acres of one and two inch spearing, the bass would run through them with their mouths open, and get what they could. A two-inch Hopkins lure that weighed about 3/4 ounces was deadly when cast to these surface feeding fish. For the most part, these lures are very light in weight, and they have to be worked a little slowly, so that they maintain their depth. Other times, a fast retrieve that brought the lure right to the surface was the ticket.

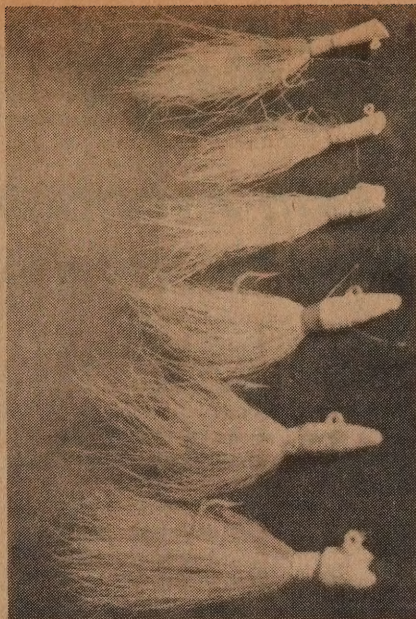
One group of lures that are still very effective, but seem to have faded from the scene, is the plastic eel. The person responsible for bringing the plastic eel to the public's attention was the late Al Reinfelder, and his partner, Lou Palma. The two of them refined the eel and marketed them as the Alou eel. The plastic lure was very effective, and is still on the market today.

There is no question what the plastic eel is meant to imitate; it's meant to simulate a live eel. It must have been a pretty good imitation, for a good number of bigger fish fell to the eel. The eel itself comes in a number of sizes; with the 3/4 ounce size being effective for those smaller fish, and the 1 1/2 ounce size being better employed for those larger fish. The eel also comes in a three and four ounce size, and can be used by the

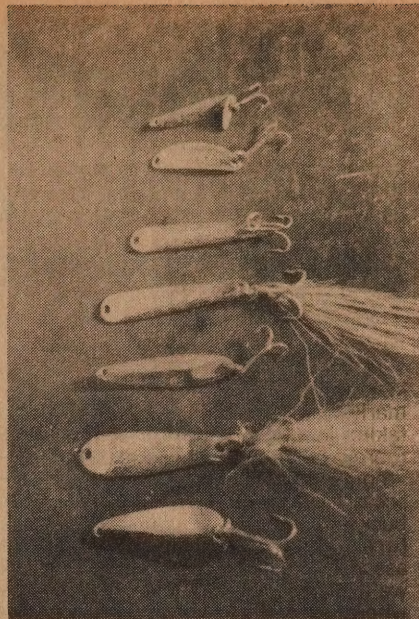




A basic selection of tins: [top to bottom] Hopkins, Demon Squid, 4 Charlie Grave's Squids.



Basic selection of bucktails.



Some tiny metal lures favored for school sized bass.

caster, under certain conditions.

The eel is meant to work on or near the bottom, and for that reason, as well as for casting ability and stability, is equipped with a leadhead onto which the eel is then molded. The favorite colors are gray, amber, and blue. Other colors that have all worked on different occasions are red, black, and green. Personally, I've never seen a green eel, but maybe the bass have. This is difficult lure to master, and requires a lot of practice to get the right lure action.

The final large grouping of lures includes the spoons and wobblers. These broad, flashy pieces of thin metal originally had their usage limited mostly to freshwater fishing, where they were improved and perfected. Somewhere along the line, they were introduced to

the saltwater, and they caught on pretty quickly, because they produced reasonably well. The spoons differed from the metal squids, in that they were lighter and broader, and didn't work as deep. They were meant to simulate such baits as the bunker, anchovy, or shad. At first, the spoons were not built for the rigors of saltwater fishing, and within a week, the spoon was a piece of rust. Gradually, the finish and other parts were improved and the spoons stood up a little better.

A properly worked spoon can be a deadly weapon when used at the right time, and under the right conditions. Because it is thin, it doesn't sink as quickly as the other tin lures, and therefore, doesn't have to be worked rapidly to keep it from sinking. A slow to moderate retrieve will work, as will the

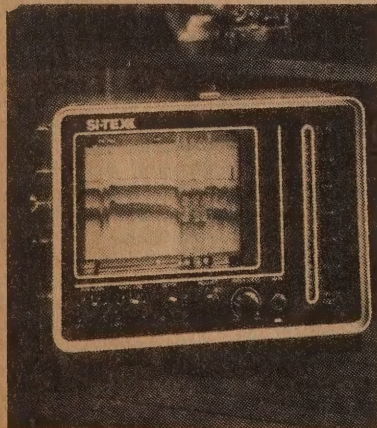
fast retrieve.

The Daredevil spoon and Krocadile spoon are the most popular models on the market. They range from 1/4 ounce, right on up to the 2 ounce jumbos. The only drawback about casting spoons seems to be that they are a little difficult to heave any distance. On a windy day, it is even that much more difficult. It is worthy to have a small selection on board any time you wish to go casting.

We have now covered the major groupings of lures available to the fishermen. By no means is the list complete; this is just a brief look at some of the other weapons available to you. It should be noted, however, that some of these lures can be used in tandem with another lure. The biggest example of

(Continued on page 50.)

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North Shore Fluke

by Don Avondolio

One of the most popular, sought after sport fish, that can rarely be considered a Long Island Sound species, has appeared in increasing numbers on the North Shore in the past three years—the “fluke,” or sometimes called “summer flounder.” Four years ago, spotty catches of this species were reported, but these were considered accidental appearances by most fishermen. Several of my fishing friends, long-time natives of the North Shore, contend that fluke have been in these waters for many years, but in smaller quantities, and that fishermen just aren’t fishing for this species. Well, we could speculate on the North Shore fluke migrations several ways. We could say that the increasing populations of sand eels (a favorite fluke food) on the North Shore, attracted these fish; or we could speculate that the South Shore or New Jersey coast pollution and the oxygen depletion might have contributed to their more northerly migration. Unfortunately, enough scientific proof to substantiate these theories, or others, is not available because of a lack of sufficient government funding for research. Regardless of the reasons, if the previous years’ fluke showings are representative of future Long Island Sound fishing conditions, we are in for some exciting bottom fishing this year.

During the last three years, all sizes and types of boats were seen drifting or trolling for fluke at the most productive locations. Charter boats originating from City Island, Connecticut, Huntington, and Port Jefferson, were obviously

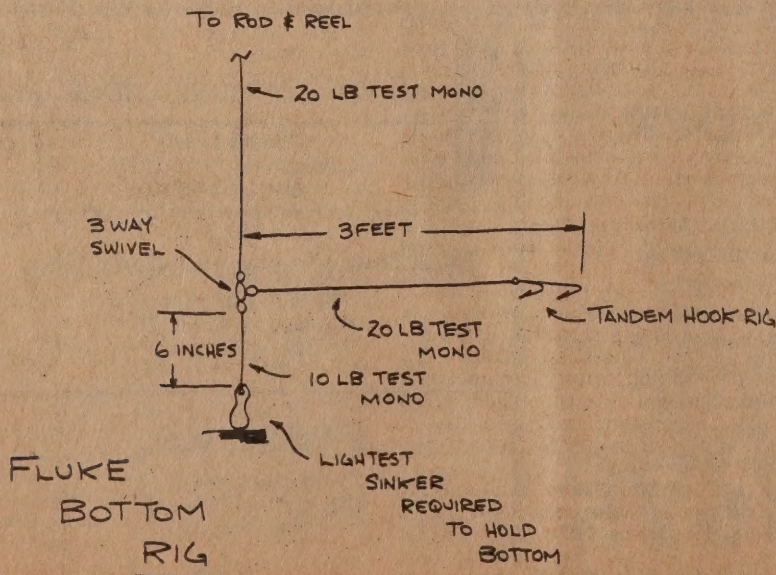
taking advantage of these large fluke migrations. Some charters were reported to have taken fluke in the hundred(s) figures in one day’s fishing. Certainly not only the quantities reported attracted fishermen, but also the thoughts of catching a fine food fish for the table. During June and July, bottom fishing for fluke appeared to be one of the most popular attractions in Long Island Sound.

This fish is a relative of the flounder—another popular fish of Long Island waters. The flounder is identifiable by its head facing right (viewing the dark side), while the fluke faces left and has a noticeable amount of sharp teeth. The fluke has a reputation of being a voracious feeder that follows and attacks bait suddenly, after emerging from his sandy bottom hiding place. Sometimes this fish will follow bait to the surface and hit without warning—a happening not common to bottom feeding species. The fluke feeds predominantly in the daylight hours, and appears initially in early June and into July, making himself known through the local fishing newspapers, and L.I.F. reports. An abnormal early warming of Long Island Sound waters could contribute to premature fluke migrations, as usually waters of 61 degrees F., or better, signify their presence.

Finding fluke feeding areas presents a challenge to the sport fisherman who is knowledgeable as to the usual fluke habitat. Most North Shore fluke are located in waters ranging from 10 to 60

feet depths, with 10 to 20 feet being the average productive depths. The fluke prefers sandy bottom structure generally, but mud and clay surfaces can produce at times. As a general rule, at low tides, channels and holes are productive; while at high tides, the sand bars, and flats produce best. These fish have a habit of hiding on the downward side of sloped bottom surfaces, especially on the down-current side. They face into the current flow, waiting for any helpless prey to be carried with the tide. In the earlier part of the Summer, these flatfish are found from 100 yards to one-half mile offshore. As a rule, the larger size fish are taken near wrecks, obstructions, and irregular bottom formations, where water turbulence is excessive. The location of typical irregular formations are indicated by visible surface rips produced by an upward current flow. Most fishermen use depth recorders to advantage in finding these sudden changing drops and rises. Some of the more popular North Shore fluke areas to consider when fishing by boat are: harbor and bay bottoms (especially their deep troughs and channels) and sand bars; noticeable rip edges; the turbulent inlet points; the gradual sloping, sandy beaches, and the estuary mouths entering out into Sound waters.

The usual procedure for catching fluke has always been by drifting, and bouncing a bottom rig as you move. This is best achieved when moving from shallow to deeper water where fluke tend to hide. Knowledge of **current direction** is essential to consistent catches. If the flow is from north to south, your bottom rig and drift should follow the same direction. Wind conditions during the Summer on the North Shore usually follow this direction; but if the drift is in the opposite direction compared to current flow, fluke catches will be minimized. Two ways of correcting the “wrong drift direction” situation are, either trolling, or by anchoring while fishing. Trolling parallel to the direction of current flow as slow as possible can correct this problem. Be sure that your bait presentation rig is on or near the bottom while trolling, and check the rig occasionally for possible weed or kelp obstructions. Anchoring over recognizable fluke areas while utilizing a chum pot, is another method of catching fluke. If 20 or 30 minutes passes, and fluke are not taken using this method, then move to another spot, and try again. Patience is an important factor in making this method work. The usual procedure while anchored, is to cast into different areas away from your boat, using a bottom rig. As you hit bottom, bounce your rig slowly in toward the boat. If this method is not successful, chum even more heavily, using old scraps of sand



eels, bait fish, or bunker, near the location of your bottom rig. Allow for current flow direction, and toss these pieces up-current accordingly, such that your bottom rig is in the downward path of current flow. Incidentally, one method of determining current flow is as follows: if you carry a can of corn kernels on your boat, toss a few into the water. The bright, gold kernels will indicate (as they fall to the water bottom) the direction of flow.

The fluke bottom rig normally used throughout Long Island waters, is as shown in the sketch. Your sinker size should be just heavy enough to hold bottom in the current present at your fishing area. The tandem hook rig is as shown in the photo, and is used to reduce the bait stealing habit of the fluke. One important characteristic of the fluke should be remembered: this fish, wary at times, will mouth a bait before swallowing it. Thus, when a slight resistance is felt, slacken your line by dropping rod tip, (or if using conventional reel) by free-spooling your line, wait a second or two, and set the hook. A 1/0 and 3/0 hook arrangement (mustad, eagle claw, sproat type), sharpened to a fine point, is adequate for North Shore fluke. The 1/0 hook is snelled to the three-foot-long leader. At approximately a distance equal to the bait fish, head-to-tail length, tie a 3/0 hook by doubling the line and passing it through the hook eye. Finish off with a palomar knot. The 3/0 hook is then placed through the bait fish or sand eel eye sockets, while the 1/0 hook is inserted in the tail, so that a uniform, normal bait fish appearance is maintained. Don't bunch up the bait fish on the rig, as this unnatural appearance will discourage strikes. A short piece of squid or pork rind is placed on the 3/0 hook (or head hook) to complete the rig. I personally prefer bottled white pork rind strips as attractors, in lieu of squid strips. These strips can be reusable after each trip by returning to the original bottled solution. Some fishermen swear by the addition of a Colorado or Willow leaf spinner, to the tandem hook rig. I feel that not only the flash of the spoon attracts fish to bait, but also the vibrations set up by the spinning movement.

Rod and reel types vary for the fluke, and are at the individual preference of the fisherman. Generally, a medium spin reel, or 1/0 conventional, bait caster style is used in conjunction with a six to eight foot long, medium action style rod. The reel should carry 100 yards of 20 pound test monofilament as a minimum. The reel drag mechanism should be set fairly light, as this fish is known for its sudden rushes. These rushes are especially evident when the fish is brought to surface in sight of boat and fisherman. Many fish are lost at this time by broken lines caused by too tight a drag. One item that is noticeable in all fluke fishing boats, and that reduces the chance of broken lines and lost fish, at final moment of capture, is the fluke net. A fluke has a large, flat body profile that contributes to his enormous swimming strength, usually demonstrated at this critical moment.

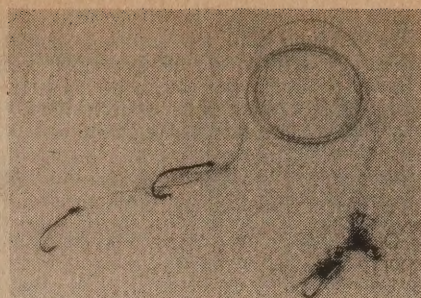
For the non-bait fishermen, or artificial lure purists, 3/8 to one ounce bucktail jigs, shrimp touts, small spoons and Rebel type sinking plugs, are several good producers. All these lures must be fished close to the bottom, with a slow to medium speed retrieve. As for the saltwater fly addict, any white or yellow fly, size 1/0 to 3/0, resembling the sand eel or spearing, fished deep will suffice. The fly line used should be of the lead core, or extra fast sinking type, combined with a system 8, 9, or 10 rod and reel. Since the latter-mentioned fly lines sink rapidly by design, bottom water penetration will be ideal. Either drift your fly in an area of turbulent current, or cast from your boat and strip line in one-foot jerks, using a slow retrieve. Give your fly a realistic wounded swimming type motion by twitching your fly intermittently on the retrieve.

Although most Long Island fluke migrations are known to frequent popular areas, such as Moriches Bay, Great South Bay, the Peconics, and Montauk Rips, the North Shore populations have appeared from as far west as Port Washington, to as far east as Wading River along the Sound beaches, harbors, and inlets. Sizes have averaged two to three pounds, with throwbacks occasionally appearing. Some five, six, and nine pound fluke are caught at times, but in past years, this has not been the usual. One encouraging fact is that comparing each new year to the previous year, the quantity and size of fluke has increased. Catches of fluke in significant quantities have appeared near the X-marked locations shown on the map. These locations were particularly attractive to myself and fishing friends in previous years, and should prove successful if fished patiently and prudently. This map, combined with the North Shore Small Craft Nautical Chart #117 SC, should help identify areas by name. The Long Island Fisherman's list of boat launching ramps, and their locations, should also prove helpful to those who trailer their boats.

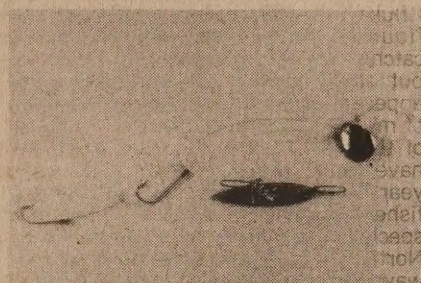
The locations on the map should be fished during changing tides, with moving water producing best. Inside the various bays and harbors—such as Manhasset, Hempstead, Cold Spring, Lloyd Harbor, Northport, etc., fluke catches are where the private and rental boats congregate. As a rule, the majority of fishing boats stay in the harbors drifting and trolling away from the rougher Sound inlets. Exact fluke locations are hard to pinpoint, as they vary from day to day. Information from local bait and boat stations, will help in locating the day's specific locations. Trolling known sand bars, located near points of land supporting turbulent tide current flow, will offer most likely spots for fluke concentrations. Once a fluke is caught, it is wise to repeat your drift-troll pattern several times.

Long Island Sound Inlet points, such as Sands Point, Matinicock Point, Lloyd Point, Eatons Neck Point, Crane Neck Point, Mt. Misery Point—offer fine feeding grounds, especially during the

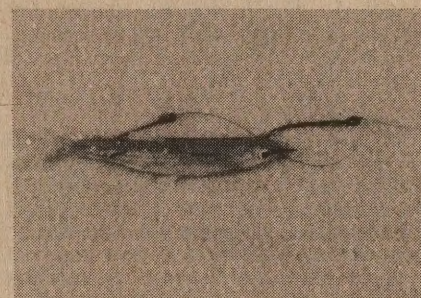
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Fluke bottom rig.



Tandem hook rig with attractor spoon attached.



Method of attaching bait fish to tandem hook rig.



Assortment of jigs, shrimp touts, spoons, plugs for fluke.

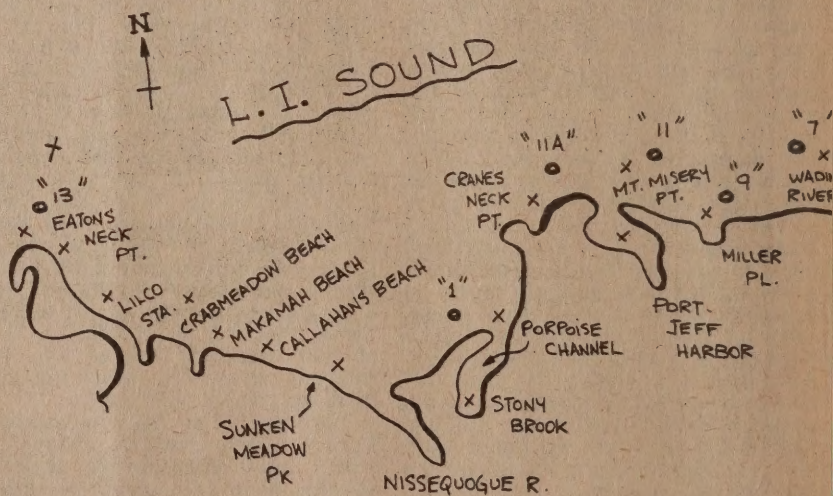


Assortment of popular flies for fluke.

ebb tide. At this time, trapped forage fishes, sand eels, marine invertebrates, etc., from the inside harbors, empty out through these inlets at a turbulent rate which attracts fluke populations to gather and feed. Simulating the current flow patterns by drifting or trolling during this ebb period, offers optimum results. Also, during slack water, an excellent time exists to fish for fluke at these inlet points of land. The especially turbulent, fast water that exists during a moving tide, is an attractor of big fluke. Normally at these same areas during moving water, it's difficult to hold bottom with your rig; while at slack water, a better opportunity exists. Most important at slack water, your bait must be kept moving on the bottom in a natural swimming motion, otherwise it will not appear realistic.

I must admit, for consistent fluke results in previous years, Mt. Misery shoal near buoy 11, can't be beat. During one trip last year, I boated 30 fluke in less than two hours' fishing. The method here is to drift from buoy 11 to shore, or vice versa, depending on the current flow. Sometimes, near the middle of Port Jefferson inlet produces best, but heavier sinkers must be used because of the unusually strong flow. Over at Eatons Neck Point, the large shoal area southwest of Can 13, is an excellent spot, and if wind direction is from south to north, or southwest to northeast, ideal drift conditions exist on an ebb tide. Another excellent area not to be overlooked—the sand flats at Lloyd Point, are fished almost identically to Eatons Neck. As mentioned previously, the Long Island Sound fluke are found in water depths of 10 to 20 feet near most beach areas. Many boats caught fluke last year close to shore at Lilco Power Plant, Crabmeadow Beach, Makamah Beach, Callahans Beach, and at Sunken Meadow Park. The drift direction was parallel to shore, or in a south to north direction. Here again, the best procedure is to find the sandy shoal flats, and drift or troll the edge of the sloped dropoffs. Work your passes so that they start close to shore, and gradually terminate out in deeper water. Last not to be ignored, are the estuary mouths during the last of the ebb. On a falling tide, bait fish are forced to exit into deeper water as the creeks recede. The fluke, aware of this condition, move in at this time to take advantage. The wise fisherman can also take advantage, and drift or troll the outflow locations to his advantage. Several good estuary locations are Crabmeadow Creek, Porpoise Channel, Nissequogue River, Lilco Power Station, Flax Pond, and others at Lloyd Point, Matinick Point, etc., which can be accurately identified on the previously mentioned North Shore Nautical Chart.

While fishing these vast Long Island Sound waters, some fluke shorts will be caught, and these must be returned by law (14 inches or less are illegal). Returning fluke shorts promotes the life of the species, and can be made even more interesting and beneficial to the fisherman if tagged. The Littoral Soc-



iety, Sandy Hook, Highland, N.J. 07732, controls the tagging program and sells tags 10 for \$2.50. These can be obtained with insertion needle and instructions, by mail. The published returns of North Shore fluke tagged, are non-existent to date; probably because the previous year's fluke throwbacks are not being tagged or that some fishermen are not returning the tags on recent keepers. If we are to find out where these North Shore fish migrations are, and their

growth patterns, we, as sport fishermen, should help as much as possible. If you haven't joined in on the North Shore fluke fishing action of previous years, try it this year, as the odds are in our favor for a good year based on the increasing quantities caught last year. Remember that the tagging program will benefit us through fish research—so support this program. Tag a fish—the fluke—that has rivaled even the prominent bottom species blackfish of North Shore waters.

BLACK BASS BASICS BY FRED GUARDINER

FRESHWATER BLACK BASS ARE THE NO. 1 AMERICAN GAMEFISH - AND WHETHER LARGEMOUTH OR SMALLMOUTH, THIS ROUGHNECK BECOMES FAIR GAME IN MOST STATES DURING JUNE AFTER THE SPAWNING RITUAL. BIG DADDY BASS BUILDS HIS OWN PAD, LURES THE FEMALE TO IT AND GUARDS THE RESULTING EGGS AND YOUNG. IT IS A MALE CHAUVINIST SOCIETY.

PREDATORS WHO HUNT AS LONERS, BASS SOCK IT TO ALMOST EVERYTHING: INSECTS, FROGS, CRAWFISH, MICE, YOUNG BIRDS, BABY MUSKRATS AND OTHER FISH. THEY SEE COLORS AS WELL AS MAN - LIKE RED AND YELLOW.

STANDARD STILL FISHING BAITS ARE MINNOWS, NIGHTCRAWLERS AND DOBSON (HELLGRAMITES).

DOBSON MINNOW WORM

A SMALLMOUTH TRYING TO SHAKE A TRIFIN WHIPTAIL.

THREE TYPES OF PLUGS FOR BASS FISHING: DEEP DIVERS, SHALLOW RUNNERS AND SURFACE SWIMMERS.

DEEP DIVING PLUG

SHALLOW SWIMMING PLUG

SURFACE PLUG

TOURNAMENT BASS PROS, TRAVELLING FROM LAKE TO LAKE BEATING THE WATER WITH TACKLE COMPANY LURES, DISCOVERED THE NEW PLASTIC GRUB ON A JIG HEAD AS A BASS SEDUCER WHICH RANKS WITH THE PLASTIC WORM.

RIGGING THE GRUB-JIG: INSERT HOOK INTO HEAD AFTER DETERMINING WHERE HOOK COMES OUT.

MIGHTY WARRIOR

by Capt. John C. Henning

Slash, tear, twist, turn, what a sport! Fin and fang against rod and reel; stripping line, burning drag, my gosh!—you are powerful. Who can deny your savage strike, your stubborn fight—I shall win.

Few fish can fight with such fury. Those who can, have strength of spirit and flesh; not so with this beast. Tremendous power is generated within a frail structure.

You **bet**, the greatest trophy fish in these inland waters is the weakfish.

Before everyone runs amok with their pictures of grandeur of the blues and stripers, let me further bring on your wrath. I've caught cod that make them both seem like bluegills and sunnies. Granted, it is not the rule, but there are those Fall days while trolling for bass, that Old whiskers makes you a believer.

No matter, the point is whatever the species, they all can be horsed—the single exception being the weakfish. Weak of mouth structure, but fierce of spirit and always savage. This fish gives nothing and takes everything.

I doubt all the blues and stripers in the past five years have claimed as many rods and reels that the weak does each year. Yeah, I know, when you're after big game, you're more cautious. Well, mate, put away that thirty pound equipment (if you fish that light), and come to grips with this trophy. Meet old yellow fin.

This year promises to set the record, for many a year to come. Surely a broadtail will be caught striking at the twenty pound mark. No need to miss out on all sorts of records either. Make certain your line is six pound test, **tournament** grade. This simply means it is guaranteed to break at a six pound stress, allowing you to fulfill the

requirements for record purposes. (Refer to Feb. 17, 1977, Issue No. 5, and future Fisherman publications for winning of boats and bucks.)

A much heavier line really isn't necessary. Like I said before, their mouths are extremely fragile; why be tempted to break her off. Light is the secret—ultra light even better.

I've been using a fly rod and small old Luxor reel, with tremendous success. Sure I've parted line; I've even busted the rod more times than I'd care to own up to. **But**, I've also had more fun and hooked more fish than most.

O.K. We all agree old yellow fin is one fine fish; so where do we catch her? Well, mates, there's the ocean (in the Fall), Peconic nearly any time May through October, but for now, the Great South Bay will **cover our bets**.

The flats off Hecksher State Park are the spawning grounds for a large segment of this species. It is common

Watch those water-bound clowns around you. One would think there was a fire aboard: everyone trying to knock the other over to flail at the water with their landing nets. If it were a comedy on TV, it really would be funny; here, however, it's sad. Damn it, how much fun can you get out of throwing down your rod and attempting to net the dancing (spawning) fish, instead of the one your buddy is relying on you to get. Few will be successful, but the one that is, is too many. Lots of bruised fish and loose scales will be your great triumph.

A net is essential to landing the fish, but should only be used to land that one tired warrior. How can we look down on a gill net (use them in the ocean) when we participate in the same misguided adventure.

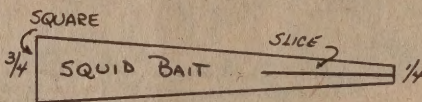
Weeks make for a fine meal and certainly should be enjoyed. What the hell is the sense of continuing the slaughter once the price goes down to nothing (14 cents). May barnacles grow in your bilge.

Now that that is off my chest, onward to better fishing and greater conservation.

This area of the Great South Bay is generally shallow. A few channels do offer a little extra water, but at **this** time of the season, it's not really necessary. The flats produce like crazy. (Refer to accompanying chart for channel and buoy locations.)

A word for the captains and mates out there: always keep your eyes open, and your ears peeled. You'll be amazed what you'll see, and reap the benefits from.

Case in point: we all know of the ferry boats churning up these waters. Not often will they be beneficial, but nothing is all bad. Sometimes a little good goes a long way. One ferry run really plows up



knowledge that weaks do not feed during the spawning season. Bunk! Spawning or not, from mid-May to the Fourth of July, better fishing is hard to find. If you are ever privileged to witness the spawning dance, you're in for a wild time.

Over the past several years, excellent weakfishing has been enjoyed. Several writers have made mention of the **dance**. While one fish is reeled in, a few to dozens scramble ahead and behind.

AREAS TO FISH

Starting East working West

East Channel Buoys 28, 29, 30

Range Channel Buoys 4, 5

*Flats & Ferry run South of Buoy #4

North Channel Buoy 3

East Channel Buoys 13A, 13, 12

East Channel Buoy 8, 6

West Channel Buoy 8, 7, 6, 5, 4

Dickerson & Snakehill Intersections



the works (refer to chart). The prop wash really can loosen one heck of a lot of fish food. Try fishing the wake area of the ferry, particularly where it cuts Range Channel.

By June 1st, you may be further surprised at the amount of fluke and blues which populate this area. They also feed heavily where the ferry cuts the main channels.

Use small 1/4, 3/8, 1/2 ounce shrimp type lures. Try gently reeling in, bouncing the bottom. At other times, whip them across the surface. A piece of squid will usually help to increase your catch. Cut the squid strip per diagram. Remember, it is important to square off the broad edge. This will eliminate much of the negative spinning.

Use squid which are rather large, and as white of flesh as obtainable. This will also give you larger strips that are thicker and firmer. It will work equally well on fluke. Don't overlook other style lures—bucktail, tin squids, rebel type plugs, etc. All have their day and should be available in your complete tackle box.

My personal preference is a light-weight (naturally) pink style shrimp lure. This color seems to constantly produce. White, gray, and tobacco, at times are preferred. When the fish are not cooperating, run the whole tackle box past them, time to time returning to pink.

A second choice of style is the Ava product. Add a strip of squid or pork rind and drop overboard. For those who know this captain, I fish four young daughters and the supreme mate. This makes casting rather dangerous at times, and for safety's sake, a simple drop and dangle procedure is employed. The drifting boat supplies the motion and the Ava's weight and style, the bounce. With ultra light drag, the strike and run of the fish will strip line, allowing the little captains plenty of time to properly adjust.

As a good captain once said, "You got to think like the fish." Captain Frank thinks he's a porgy; me, I'm something else. It's up to the captain to crawl inside the scales and locate the fish for his family, friends, and charter.

Bounce bottom, wipe the surface—try everything in-between. If you're fortunate to have a casting group aboard, cast to all points of the compass. One direction of retrieve will out-produce the others.

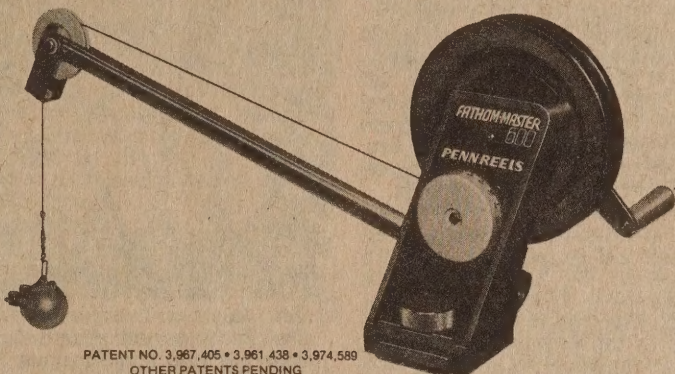
The most productive area is at 45 degrees to your beam. The drift will work the lure aft and cover the greatest possible area. For the real salts, two points forward of your up-river beam. Whatever that means!

No matter, the name of the game is always innovate. Try new, different, even radical changes when you're into fish, as well as when you're not. One way always will work better; never develop a single pattern.

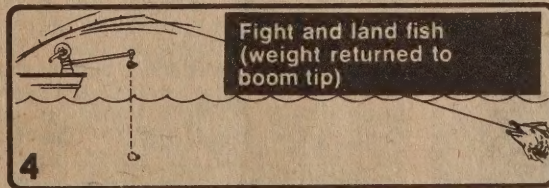
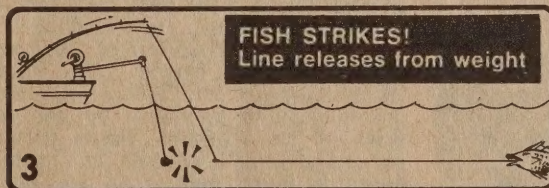
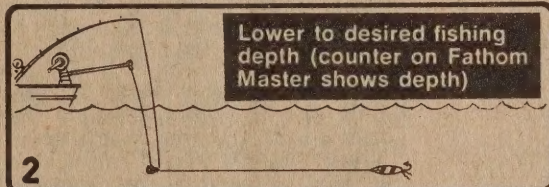
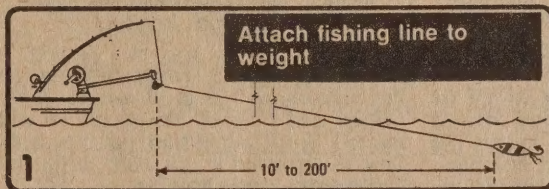
Keep your eyes open, your ears peeled, play your hunch. Let your mind swim with the fish. Whatever adds to your enjoyment and productive use of our sport is great. Just remember one last thing—don't get too carried away and wind up smelling like a dead one.

Catch more fish with the practical **FATHOM-MASTER®** **DOWN RIGGER**

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ATTENTION: MR. WALTER



SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Star** reported that the codfishing is still very good off Block Island. The catch now consists of 99 percent cod with only a few pollack left in the area. The cod are the good eating size of 10 to 12 lbs. with a lot of quantity. The pool fish ranges from 30 to 40 pounds daily. The **Viking Starlite** is doing a good job with the fluke on its half day trips. Best tide has been incoming water in the North Rips with the average fish a little over 2 pounds, all keepers. The pool fish on Saturday was 10 pounds and Sunday's doormat was 8 pounds.

First trip of the season for the **Modar II** resulted in a catch of 5 blue shark that were tagged and released as part of a NOAA Survey. On Sunday 20 blue sharks were taken in 200 feet of water 165 degrees from the Point. The sharks ranged up to 130 pounds and all were tagged and released. Capt. Pete Van Alst now charts the **Modar II** out of Star Island Yacht Club and has some openings left for full and split charters for the season.

Capt. Richard Rade of the **Marlin IV** said that smaller codfish have moved into the area south of Block Island but the catches are impressive in numbers. Average catch has been 10 to 15 cod per



The first trip of the season for "Modar II" resulted in a catch of five shark, two of which are shown. Three were tagged and released as part of the NOAA Survey. Anglers shown with their fish are Sarah Van Alst and Al Bradick.



Ten bass and 2 blues for Doctor Dick Blum caught aboard Captain John DeMaio's charterboat "Vivienne." The 36 pounder was taken on 15 lb. test line, casting.

man in the 8 to 10 lb. range with the pool fish ranging from 25 to 30 pounds. A few pollack and bluefish are mixed in with the cod. The Captain said that now is the time to come out if you want to fill that freezer with codfish fillets.

Capt. Jimmy Beehan of the **Peconic Queen III** told us that the codfishing has been great, with smaller cod but a lot of quantity. Average fish is 12 to 14 pounds with a few bluefish mixed in. Block Island, Shark's Ledge and Outer Cartwright are all producing good catches.

Henry Colombi Part II called to say that the shark fishing is phenomenal and it looks like a great year for offshore fishing in the making. The "Meditation" fished the Hudson Canyon on Saturday and released 15 sharks. The water temperature was only 59 degrees, which is a little cold for swordfish, but another week or so of warm temps should alleviate this small matter in time for the swordfish tournament to be held later this month. Capt. Pete Van Alst of the **Modar II** has been cleaning up on blue sharks in only 200 feet of water. The codfishing at Block Island is also holding up quite well, and a few bass are being taken mostly at night trolling plugs. Capt. Ronnie Goldberg of the "Bar-Bar-Jac" took 3 cod, 30 pollack and 4 bluefish on Sunday. The "Marie III" had 12 bluefish, 1 striped bass and 25 pollack. The "Bandit" trolled all Saturday night and scratched out 5 bass up to 28 pounds. The "Bumble-Bee" took 4 bluefish, 1 striper and a mess of pollack.

Capt. John DeMaio of the charterboat **Vivienne** reported that the bass fishing started to get good on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday but fell on its face for the weekend for some reason. On Wednesday afternoon ten bass to 36

pounds were taken on diamond jigs and casting bucktails. On Friday morning's trip, 6 bass were jigged to 25 pounds and another 6 to 25 pounds were taken on the afternoon trip. John said his charter didn't take any bass on Saturday, but a few fish were taken by other boats on umbrella rigs.

The **Viking Skipper II** reported fishing off Frisbee and Rocky Hill Grounds good with nice numbers of sea bass, cod, pollack and ling. Blackfish were thrown in also in these catches.

Ron Grandinetti of the **Julie C** with Emil Jascot of the Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County, N.J. had a beautiful May 30th with 22 blues in the 8 to 13 lb. range and 13 pollack in the 16 to 30 lb. range taken. All were caught on tubes and jigs southeast of Block Island. On Saturday, Capt. Ron and a party of 8 caught 100 bass in the Frisbee area, with fish ranging from 1 to 3 lbs.

NOYAC

Noyac Marina reports weakfish are still around and the blues have come in. Barbara and Bob Williams of Jamiaca had 8 weaks and 6 blues and some fluke on Saturday. Barbara weighed in a 10 1/4 lb. and an 8 1/2 lb. blue on Hopkins.

SHINNECOCK

Charterboat **Blue Baron** called to report a group from PITA had 36 good sized flounder on one of his half day trips last week, fishing off Greenlawn. Most of the fish were between 1 1/2 and 2 pounds.

Capt. Clark Bellows Sr. of the **Capt. Clark Fleet** reported that the weakfish are almost gone after a disappointing year. But the porgies are getting better and better daily on the local wrecks with a few blackfish mixed in. On Thursday



Harry Rothar, Joe DeMarco, Joe Jr. and John Roszkowski from LILCO with their catch of ten blue sharks of which 5 were released taken at the Butterfish Hole aboard the "Sea Doll."

one of the boats made an experimental trip offshore fishing the Shinnecock artificial fishing reef and east of there on the Panther Wreck off So. Hampton. Excellent catches are big sea bass, a few over 4 pounds were taken with blackfish up to 5 pounds, a few pollack and all the ling you wanted at both formations. The Captain said that one of the boats will be wreck fishing whenever weather permits.

MORICHES BAY

Mary at L&M Marine called to say that two of the marina boats had some nice fishing on the weekend. On Saturday 13 year old Joseph Mituzas took an 8 lb. weakfish at Jessup's Neck in Peconics on a squid strip. Larry Scoville fished Moriches Inlet late Sun. afternoon and took a 19½ lb. striped bass on 15 lb. test line as well as a few bluefish on an Ava-27 diamond jig. Rental boats were still doing a good job on flounder around buoy 36. The Flannagans took 32 flounder there and Joe Marchitti took 36 flounder on bloodworms and mussel chum. Fluke fishing has generally been poor with 8 to 10 fish a boat. Best area has been close to the inlet around buoy 39 on incoming water using squid and sandeels for bait.

Silly Lily Fishing Station reports that in general the fishing was poor over the weekend with the fluke fishing being better than the flounder fishing. Robert Schule fished for one hour and took 6 fluke up to 3½ pounds at buoys 36 through 39. The fluke that are being caught are being taken on sandeels and squid combos. Flounder are still being



Chris Stuvén had 18 nice fluke from buoy 26 to 27 on the drift. He used killies and squid combos which accounted for this 9¼ lb. fluke. Photo courtesy of Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station.



Chet and Ken Werle and Dom Guarino with 20 flounder taken west of buoy 52 on bloodworms and mussel chum on the outgoing tide. Photo courtesy of Seatuck Cove Marina.

picked up in the one to one and a quarter lb. range at buoys 36 and 38 on worms and red dyed clams. Nice bass up to 30 pounds are being taken in the Elbow.

HAMPTON BAYS

Skipper's Fishing Station reports that the boats did not do too well on Saturday because of the high winds but averaged

8 to 9 fluke from 1½ to 2 pounds per boat. The fishing was had between Jackson Marina and the red channel buoy right off the station. Sandeels and squid were used for bait. A NY City attorney, Carol Calhoun was high hook with 16 keepers to 3 pounds. The fluke fishing should improve if the winds stay down and there are a lot of shorties around. Phil Cohen took 140 pound dusky shark aboard his boat "Bunky."



That's Mike Blum with a 23 lb. pollack and his brother Dave with a 3 lb. flounder. The boys and their Dad teamed for a mixed bag of pollack, bluefish, blacks, flounder and fluke taken aboard Capt. John DeMaio's charterboat "Vivienne."

The Long Island FISHERMAN FISHING TRIP

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a \$10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.

LAST WEEK'S WINNER:

Harold Weidemeyer of Centereach is our winner this week for the contest. Along with \$20 he has also chosen a free fishing trip for two aboard the Betty W.

CONTEST



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★ Bonus Prize ★

Contest winners also will receive a NAFABCO GIMBAL ROD BELT, the new lightweight unbreakable plastic gimbal for boat & surf!!!

THIS WEEK'S
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580-YPY

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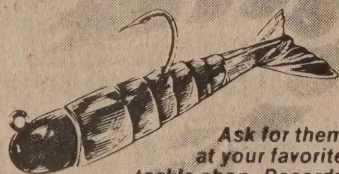
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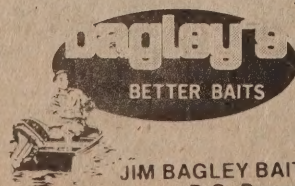
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Adam Okoula, Joe Terito, Bill Schutz and Al Guglielmo and their fine catch of flounder taken between buoys 36 and 39. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Sta.

Corr's Fishing Station reports activity in Peconic Bay was hampered by the heavy winds over the weekend. Most anglers concentrated on fishing Shinnecock Bay for fluke and school bluefish. Fluke are becoming more productive each week now. Catches of 8 to 12 good sized keepers per man are common, with fluke up to 4 pounds being taken. Good areas were Shinnecock Canal to buoy 31 or East Channel by the Inlet and the Channel by the Coast Guard Station. A combination of squid and sandeels or shiners is the bait and both tides are productive. As far as the blues, weekday anglers enjoyed both school bluefishing with 25 to 30, 1 to 3 pounders being taken. Best areas were around buoy 34 to Cormorant Pt. and in front of the Ponoquogue Bridge. Silver spoons are being used for surface fish while tubes or umbrellas for the bottom fish.

MASTIC BEACH

Gary at Stiriz's Fishing Station reports fluke and blues hot and heavy from the Smith Point Bridge to buoy 25 all week long and weekend. The blues are up to 4 pounds, and are feeding on the fluke baits. Fluke are best on incoming with sandeels, smelts and squid on the hook. The blues can be had on bait and can be trolled or casted to with tubes, surface and sub surface plugs and of course bait. This is all on the inside. Flounders have about gone and there are some blowfish and blacks at the bridge on squid and worm. Weaks are best north of buoy 19 on salty dogs with squid strip on bottom tides. The largest fluke of the weekend was caught by Debbie Borro, tipping the scale at 6 pounds 4 ounces taken at buoy 17 on spearing and a flooding tide.

SAYVILLE

Things have slowed a bit reports Young's Fishing Station. However, Don of Wet-A-Line Bait and Tackle with his wife and daughter drifting sandworms between buoys 4 and 29 boated 25 weaks in the 6 to 7 lb. range in just a few hours

Sunday morning. Bluefish to 2 pounds at Point-O-Woods on clam, sand eels and salty dogs. Fluke, flounder and blowfish are also mucking around in the same areas and are sure to go for some worm or clam if you offer it to them.

WEST SAYVILLE

Lots of fish reports South Bay Fishing Station, with blues and fluke and weaks all being taken together. Best area would be northwest of buoy 25 and also between Heckscher's buoy 4 and 5. Squid and plastic shrimp are working best, with one angler, Mr. Kim Young taking 18 keeper fluke between buoys 28 and 29.

EAST ISLIP

Wet-A-Line Bait and Tackle reports bluefish at the Robert Moses Bridge on bunker chum and butterfish baits and also on plugs. Buoy 5 drifting east to buoy 29, sandworms drifted for weaks is very effective now. This is the Heckscher area. Blue sharks being taken at the 135' mark. Bluefish are mixed in with the shark, the choppers in the 13 pound range. One angler had 6 shark and ten chopper blues this weekend.

OAK BEACH

The Store reports blues in the inlet up to 3 pounds and a lot of fish particularly this past Friday night on sand eels and spearing taken on fluke rigs. Fluking has been very good in Fire Island Inlet and the area of the Whistler. Flounders have slowed. Weakfish are on the north side of The Store, best at dusk and dawn especially with high tides. Striped bass at Cedar on Wed. up to 28 pounds on big trolled plugs. These fish should be available from the beaches as well now. The Store will have live bass eels this weekend.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports weakfish at the Heckscher flats in early eve with flood tides working best with drifted sandworms. Carl weighed in a 16 lb. fluke taken from the West Island Tower on a squid! killie combo. Anglers name remains a mystery. Mike Mc Mannis of Bay Shore had 8 bluefish from 2 to 5 pounds on Saturday morning at Democratic Pt. on Redfins and Hopkins. Umbrellas and tubes on wire are getting blues around the Fire Island dredge. Blue shark are being taken southwest of the inlet in 160' of water.

CAPTREE

Capt. Bob Patafio of the charterboat Yankee reported that the flounder fishing was very good on Saturday at the Sore Thumb. The fish were in small patches and you really had to work to find them. The Captain noted that the clam lips worked better than bloodworms. On Sunday the charter did a good job on fluke taking 125 fish averaging 18 to 19 inches, with a few going 3 1/2 pounds. The hot area for fluke

has been the bell buoy at the mouth of the inlet, drifting east to west along the troth west of the bell. Flood tide has been most productive, using killies or sandeels with squid strips, which are equally as productive. Inside the bay, the State Channel has seen the best fluking on the last of the incoming tide. A few bluefish in the 2 lb. class are being taken inside the bay at night.

Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy VI** reported that the weakfish have slowed up during the day and are only fair at night. Fluke fishing has been excellent, and on Sun. over 300 keepers were taken in front of the inlet between the bell buoy and the jetty at the 30 foot drop-off. There are very few throwbacks with the fish averaging 1 1/2 up to 3 pounds. Squid and sandeels best bait. Speedy said that they have another super trip in the long string of tilefishing expeditions. The trip last Tuesday took 350 tilefish in all weights and sizes. The Captain noted that there is still a few openings for the June 12th, Sunday night trip.

1/3 Capt. Bob Joseph of the **Captain Joseph Fleet** said that the fluke fishing was down on Sat. due to the high winds. Sunday however, was very good at the mouth of the inlet and it was a steady pick all day. Sand eels are the best bait and a fast drift is most productive. The **Captain Joseph** boats are now going exclusively for fluke with boats leaving daily at 7 A.M., 8 A.M., and 3:30 P.M. and on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at 7 A.M., 8 A.M., 3:30 P.M. and 4:30 P.M.

The **Captain Richie** reported that a 5 1/2 year old boy showed all the old timers how to fluke fish last week. Jeff Filone of Mt. Haven, Pa., took an 8 lb. 12 oz. doormat as well as 13 other fluke. Liz Nichols of Brooklyn took an 8 lb. 6 oz. fluke. The Captain said that the fluke fishing has been picking up decently.

Captain Neil of the **Lady Ann** called to say that the fluke were fair to good over the weekend with 75 to 125 fish per trip, many in the 2 to 4 lb. range. There were even some 6 to 9 pounders in there. For bait, killies, squid and sandeels were best and the productive areas were the bell buoy outside the inlet and for big fish, off Ocean Beach. Weakfishing has slowed down radically, with virtually none being taken during the day.



SEAFORD

Lon Wanser Bait and Tackle reports a lot of fluke. Al Shelly and Jerry Sallman of Massapequa had 6 fluke up to 5 pounds fishing Jones Inlet. Catches of 20 and 30 fluke are common with sandeels a predominate bait. Flounders are still very good on worms almost all over. Some weakfish at the Wantagh bridges on sandworms eves and nights. Some bass inside and outside, chum, live lined and trolled. A lot of Danny plugs are being sold to sharpies.

Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station reports very good fluke action in Goose Creek on sandeels and squid. Best is from the drawbridge to the Meadowbrook Bridge, all tides. A few but big flounders are being taken on sandworms.

BABYLON

A 21 1/2 lb. striper was taken from Cedar Overlook, reports **Augie's Bait and Tackle**, by Jim Kazmac on Sunday morning at 10 A.M., fishing a sandworm and other stripers were taken from the beach also. Neal Behringer of W. Islip bagged a 26 lb. 10 oz. striper last Sunday night on a live eel from his boat in Fire Island Inlet. Lots of bluefish in the inlet in early morn and eve hours in the 2 1/2 lb. category taken from Democratic Pt. and other areas on the inlet and bay. They are taking bait and artificials and are swimming along with the weakfish. Saturday night a big killing on these harbor blues was made with Hopkins tins. These fish are full of sand eels. Fluking has been very good in the State Channels in weekdays when the boat traffic is at a minimum. On weekends, the area from the Coast Guard Station to the inlet has been producing well, six to 15 keepers per man average. Weakfish are still around but you've got to drift sandworms now. Flounders at the Sore Thumb, but leaving fast.

Charlie's Fishing Station reports that all of their skiffs are returning with fluke and some are also bringing back weakfish. The State Channel and behind Grass Island are producing best. Good catches were made by Pete Ingrassia of North Babylon and by Tom Gerard of Brooklyn. Spearing are attracting the weakfish but the fluke prefer dining on squid and sandeels, says Margaret.

LINDENHURST

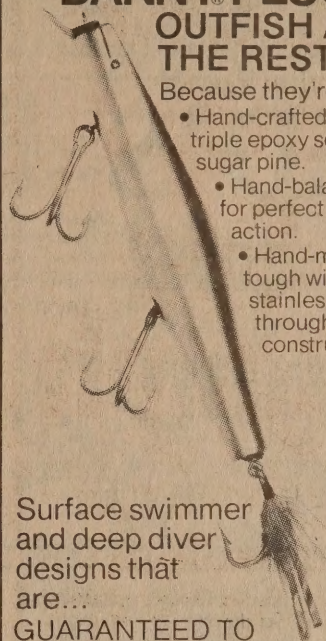
Blues at Democratic Pt., says John at **Charlie's Bait and Tackle**, for surfcasters each night and morning before boat traffic puts them down. These fish are from 2 to 8 pounds and are taking bait, tins, plugs, etc. A lot of blue shark have been taken offshore from 110 to 140' of water south of the inlet. A few bass are being hung, but not a whole lot. Live eels and live blackfish should work well. A 12 1/2 lb. weak was caught by Tony the Shoemaker's wife, Rosie on a salty dog south of Nichol's Pt. Still some flounders at the Sore Thumb on worms. Fluking has been fair to good from the Light-house to the Inlet on sand eels, squid and killies. A few blackfish have started again at the artificial reef and there are a few blowfish around. Two well known sharpies are getting their bass and John advises that if you see a boat called the **Sepequod**, to follow it. Try live lining live bunker right now, if you can find any.

Capt. Bob Fischer who's new boat of the same name is now sailing out of Lindenhurst reports good fluking in Fire Island Inlet with a fair number of shorts being taken. Bob says he is booking afternoon weakfish charters and reports

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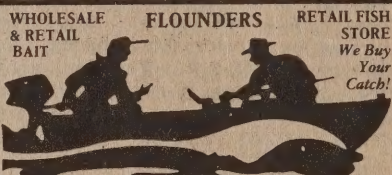
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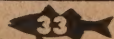
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catches are fair to good at this time.

Fluking is good reports the **Sea Horse**. There is a lot of grass mixed in this past week, probably due to the moon tides. On Wed., Rudy D'Ambrogio of Bellmore had a 7 pounder at Ocean Beach on sand eels. Customers are averaging 5 to 6 fluke per man. Good catches are fairly certain once you're free of the grass.

COPIAGUE

Jonas Bait and Tackle tells of some bass taken in the State Channel off Tobay on live eels. Weaks are off and on. The Copiague bridges are producing some small weakfish on bait and also on artificials, as is Steamboat Channel.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle reports fluking excellent at West Island and Windy Hook. Fred Dombo of Squadron Anglers landed 20 big fluke on Sunday using spearing and killies. Goose Creek and Wanser's Cut are also good. Weakfishing has been good at Fort Neck Pt. and Zach's Bay on sandworms and nine inch brown or red jelly worms with Texas rigs. The last hour of the tide is working best for weakfish on shrimp chum and sandworm on the hook at West Channel and the hole by the lighthouse. Stripers on the east side of the inlet bridge, jigging bucktails and drifting live eels. Also a few on bellies and shrimp chum in the State Channel.

MASSAPEQUA

Bill at Massapequa Tackle and Sports reports fluking is very good at Squaw Island and the Wantagh bridge areas and at both inlets with fish being caught up to five pounds on killies and squid. Small blues at Jones Inlet are being taken on fluke rigs. A few weakfish at the third Wantagh at night on sandworms and an ebb tide. Stripers at the Meadowbrook Bridge on live bunker. Bill says bunker is thick all over Massapequa Cove. Choppers and blue shark at the 120' mark southeast of Jones Inlet.



Andrew Danicuk and John Barton took these 25 flounder up to 1 3/4 pounds. Photo courtesy of Massapequa Tackle and Sports.

MERRICK

Nick's Marina reports that fluke up to 4 pounds were caught over the weekend at Merrick Pt and Swift Creek using sandworms and spearing for bait. Adding to the weekend excitement was the catch of a 176 lb. white shark in 120 feet of water 180 degrees off Jones Inlet. This was from Mike Stone's "Rolling Stone." Some fellows chumming for sharks landed a few blues. Seven blue sharks were tagged and released.

BELLMORE

Merrick Marine Supplies reports a 176 lb. great white shark caught by Star Ferrett on Mike Stone's boat "Rolling Stone." They released 5 blue shark in addition. This was in 120' of water 170 degrees out of the inlet. Blues in the inlet to 3 pounds on the West Bar or bucktails. Good fluking at the mouth of Swift Creek. Bass from the surf on black eels and black plugs and black Alous in the West End area.



N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Charterboat **Sea Egg** called to tell us that an offshore trip on Friday produced three blue shark up to 100 pounds and 14 bluefish up to 14 pounds. This was at the 140' mark. No makos yet, but lots of blue shark around.

Starstream II reports fair catches of sea bass and giant ling, with sea bass up to 3 pounds and ling up to 5 pounds all week long. Thursday and Friday saw exceptionally heavy catches for those aboard, since these days saw lighter crowds.

The **Aloma II** reports very good fluking with fish up to 4 1/2 pounds both Sat. and Sun. with things a little better on Sunday. Saturday's catch was 3 to 5 fluke per man, but Sunday saw it pick up to the tune of 5 to 10 fluke per. More keepers than shorts, says Capt. Paul. These fish are averaging 2 1/2 to 3 pounds and want sand eels and squid. The **Aloma** is concentrating on local wrecks and putting passengers into sacks of ling and sea bass.

The **Capt. Lou II** tells of lots of flounder still being caught to the tune of around 30 per man with Swift Creek being red-hot on bloodworms. The Coast Guard Station is also producing well. This week fares caught two biggies at 2 pounds 3 ounces and 2 pounds 11



Shown here are happy anglers with a load of tilefish taken last weekend on Freeport's Blue Fin II.

ounces. These fish were weighed in at Hook Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle on Woodcleft Canal. Incoming is best. In as much as customers now want fluke, by the time you read this report the Capt. Lou will be fluking steadily.

The Capt. Al reports terrific, really terrific sea bass and ling fishing all week and weekend long with a few pollack and blacks getting in on the act. Buckets are being filled very easily. Two men got 120 sea bass between them from 1/2 to 4 pounds this week.

The Captain II is now sailing open, two trips a day for fluke, 8 A.M. to 12 noon and 2 P.M. to 6 P.M.

Eve trips on the Capt. Al are also very productive. Please note their ad for the time and day change.

A great tilefishing trip, reports Blue Fin II. They fished the east end of the canyon in 480' of water. Up to 6 pounds of lead had to be used early in the day, but when the wind and current eased, 32 ounces worked ok. Fish were caught in the 40s with high hook of 12 tilefish going to Joe Masone of Island Park. Runner-up was Charlie Brightbill of Ridgewood with 10 tile. Roughly 95 tilefish came over the rail. Wire was least productive in inexperienced hands. Dacron and mono and 50 lb. test worked

best. This weekend's fluking on the boat was very good with 12 to 20 fluke a man. Edelweis Ski Club of Ridgewood was out on Sunday with the pool fish at 4 1/2 pounds on sandeels and squid fished locally.

Very good fluking all week, reports the Capt. Hall, with three fish during the week going to 5 pounds. One man and his son had 28 keepers on Sunday. The majority of fish are keepers with sandeels, squid and killies racking up scores. The boat is fishing locally in what Capt. Paul describes as calm sheltered waters.

Capt. Joe Long of the charterboat Nite Owl called to say that his Sunday charter bagged 24 keeper fluke, despite the heavy boat traffic. Joe also reports that there are a lot of blue sharks at the 120' mark.

Charterboat Lucky Strike III called to say that he was into good catches of fluke on Saturday working sandeels and squid both inside and outside Jones Inlet.

Marty Dombrowski of the Dockside Restaurant took a holiday on Friday and in 2 1/2 hours had 40 keeper fluke and one bluefish on Jones Inlet's East Bar on squid and sandeels.

Mako Marina reports a 44 lb. 6 oz. bass taken by John Cromwell on "Jersey Bellies" at the Meadowbrook Bridge Friday night.

The new charterboat Shalidon was fluke fishing on Saturday and bagged 18 fluke up to 5 pounds in just a few hours in Jones Inlet on squid and killies.

Sea Isle Sports reports fluke excellent in Swift Creek, Sloop Channel and the Inlet with sandeels being best on all tides. Bass being chummed under the 3rd Meadowbrook Bridge. There is still flounder about in Haunts Creek.

POINT LOOKOUT

According to Ed's Fishing Station inlet fishing was very good over the weekend although outside was not as productive.

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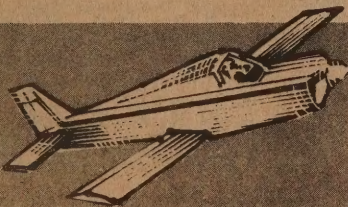
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Areas around the Coast Guard Station and Middle Bay, the hideaways in particular, were good. Flounders can still be had. Fluke was the winning catch for Tom Mazur, Mike Latorrace and Lou Alvino of Rutherford N.J. who caught 45 good sized fluke around the flats off buoy 16 in Reynolds Channel. The same area was productive for Gary Cox and



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Frank Sadowski and his son Ron, who brought back 32 keepers between 1 3/4 pounds and 3 pounds using killies and sandeels for bait. Best tide was incoming towards the high. The only bad time was at dead low.

ISLAND PARK

Beckman's Tackle reports that fishing wasn't bad over the past week. Fluke are being picked up west of the Long Beach Bridge and fluking has picked up in Jones Inlet over the weekend. Blackfishing under the bridge is still

good. Bass fishing from the surf at Atlantic Beach on live eels and bunker is doing good. A 32 1/2 pounder was the biggest to come in from this area. Chumming with clam bellies under the Meadowbrook Bridge is bringing fish up to 20 pounds. Don Bingle took 7 bass from 12 to 15 pounds on a black L-6 Lancer at the Breezy Pt. jetty.

The Commodore reports good week-end fluking with Tom Rubb boating 25 keepers on Saturday. John reports that there are fluke all through Reynolds Channel.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Ronnie Lepper of the Kim reports the striped bass fishing was fair most of the week, fish small to medium. Very few big fish west of Jones Inlet. Those that are around are feeding on sandeels. Very few bunker around. Most of the fish taken, says Ron, are hitting Lupo-umbrellas, wine colored, with a green snake in the middle. Some decent bass being taken from the beaches between Breezy Pt. and Fire Island on bunker chunks. Fluking still very good in Debs Inlet and from Reynolds Channel through Reis Park.

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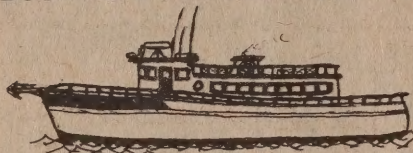
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Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports the bass fishing is very good at the North and South Channel Bridge at night using sandworms. Blacks are being picked up along Beach Channel Drive and from the South Channel Bridge to the Marine Parkway Bridge. Breezy Pt. is producing large bass for both trollers and surf casters.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Stella Maris Bait and Tackle reports very good fluking off Reis Park, Coney Island, fish up to 3 pounds on spearing and squid. Stripers are taking spoons and umbrellas at Romer Shoals, fish up to 35 pounds having been weighed in Bass at the Tin Can also on umbrellas or dark colors. Blues being trolled off Norton's Pt. The party boats are taking sea bass up to 6 pounds. Looks like a great sea bass season.

The Eagle reports fair sea bass and blackfishing all during the week and weekend. Larry will be switching to fluking on June 15th. The boat is chartered for Saturday and the night fishing trips are putting fish in the box.

The Dorothy B reports very good fluking off the Rockaways, to the tune of 7 to 15 fish per man coming out to 100 to 200 fish per day for the boat, with 10 percent being throwbacks. Capt. Tom is fishing the Ambrose area with sandeel and spearing. Tom will be fluking for the next four months and calls your attention to the boat's tournament and also the dock tournament daily, weekly, monthly plus five grand prizes.) The Dorothy B sails from the Tamaqua Dock, Gerritsen Beach.

The Pilot II reports very good catches of sea bass plus a few blacks, all fish of mixed sizes. The blacks went up to 10 pounds.

The Blue Sea III reports very good fluking now with Friday and Saturday being especially good off Rockaway Playland.

Big Mohawk II had the Frito La people out on Saturday and 37 fare banded away at whiting, ling and sea bass all day. Whiting and ling were fished at Scotland and the artificial reef produced the sea bass. Fish were mixed sizes, averaging 25 fish per man. On Sunday the C.P. Young and Co. sailed away on whiting, ling and sea

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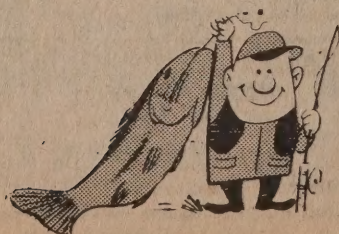
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★ NITE WEAKFISH • 7 PM DAILY

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LARGE & SMALL CHARTERS AVAILABLE
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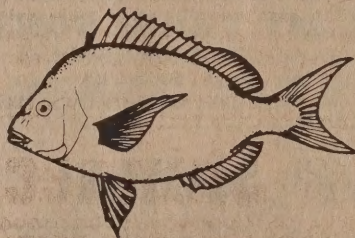
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8 A.M. BETTY W^{DAILY}

• Now Open Boat 7 Days A Week •

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DAY OFF II

BIG BLACKS • PORGIES
OPEN 8 A.M. DAILY

SPECIAL CHARTERS ARRANGED—
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bass in the morning and filled it out with fluke in the afternoon off the Rockaways. Tony says he has choice weekdays for fluke still available. On Wed. the Starlight Fishing Club of Queens fished from 4 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.; ending up with 6 to 8 fluke per man. Two friends of Tony's in two separate boats had 23 and 33 bluefish fishing 2 1/2 miles northeast of the HA, trolling in the morning and chumming with mackerel chum and chunks in the afternoon. The choppers ran from 8 to 12 pounds.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports that South Beach, Fort Wadsworth and Cliff St. are the hot spots right now for bass and blues. Pete Vardijan took a 26 lb. 1 oz. bass; Richie Bungarz took a 29 lb. 2 oz. bass; Peter Fu took a 10 lb. 2 oz. blue; Al Leonardi had a 9 lb. 9 oz. blue and Nick Manzi had a 10 lb. 7 oz. blue. These fish are being taken on bait, swimmers and popping plugs. Best time to fish is at sun up and down and the last three hours of the outgoing tide. Some smaller stripers are being taken on bait at Sailor's Snug Harbor and Jersey St. Fluking is good at the rock jetty in Great Kills Park. Boaters are doing well for bass and blues at West Bank, Romer Shoals and Old Orchard. The Bergen Ave storm sewer to the Verrazano Bridge is producing bass and blues using Montauk bunker spoons and bunker dunking.

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38 FT. • 12 PASS. LIMIT

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Fish of the Week Award plus
GRAND PRIZE—No Entry Fee!!!
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Personalized 4 Passenger Service

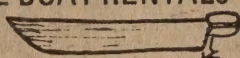
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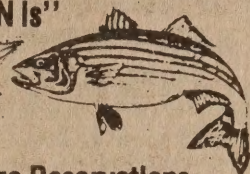
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DAILY 8A.M.

2 Boats Every Day

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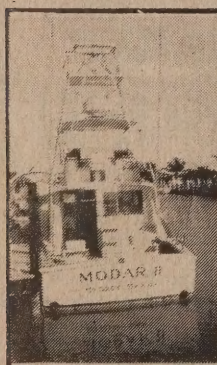
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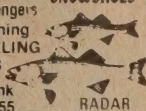
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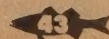
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7 AM 3:30 PM

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West Side of Captree Dock

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Ted Varlas, Archie Getsios and Smaro Getsios with their catch of fluke taken aboard the "Lady Ann."

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

SOUTHOLD

Bill at **Port of Egypt** said the fishing was mediocre last week. Lots of wind was the culprit. Best catch of 16-18 weaks was made at the Brickyard. The fellow said anchoring made the difference as opposed to running all over the bay. Porgies are running 1½-2 pounds. Average is about 20 fish per boat. If you have your own boat, you can get some weakfishing in the evening. Over the weekend, some fish were taken off Greenlawn and the Silver Sands Motel. Flounder are still over at Gardiners, along with some fluke. Blues are around, but right now pickings are slim.

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GREENPORT

A. P. White Bait Shop reports that there are loads of blues in the Bay and fishing is fair. Weaks and porgy fishing is fair during the day in the Bay. There is good weakfishing in Pipes Cove, and west of White Hill, Shelter Island in the evenings after dark. Seabass, blacks, fluke and porgies, can be taken off Green Hill. Orient Point and Pettys Bight are

producing good flounder fishing. Bass can be picked up at Plum Gut in the evening.

Lenny from **Eddie's Marine**, Far Rockaway, on a weakfish charter this weekend, reports that he nailed 18 big tiderunners fishing off Shelter Island. Way to go, Lenny.

Open boat **Wilhelric** fished Gardiner's Sunday and got good catches of porgies and sea bass. They will continue fishing this area. This will be the last weekend of night weakfishing. 40 weaks and 6 fluke were taken Sunday night by a party chartering the boat.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports that fishing for weaks and porgies is slow. Catches of 20 weak, and 100-125 porgies have been taken over the weekend at the South Race and at the Sand Slide off Cows Neck on salty dogs, sandworms and squid. Porgies have ben been taking worms and skimmers at buoys 23 and 25.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle Center reports that for some of those who stayed out in the wind on Saturday, weakfish were taken using a high hook with a whole sandworm. Lots of good sized weaks, were taken on Sunday. Large and small porgies are mixed together at South Race, Roses Grove and Jessups. Bass, blues, and blacks, are being caught along the beaches on the sound. A few fluke are also being picked up in the Sound.

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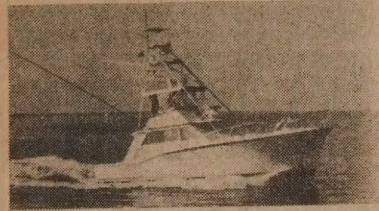
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Don King of Manhattan with his catch of 4 weaks to 11 pounds and 2 fluke up to 6 pounds 7 ounces taken at buoy 17. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt.

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FREEPORT

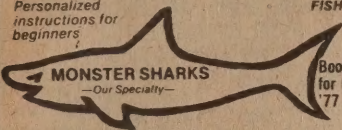


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Fred Sigoski and Joe Dimino with 19 weakfish up to 10 pounds and fluke up to 3 1/4 pounds taken at South Race between buoys 25 and 30 with salty dogs and squid. Photo courtesy of Capt. Marty's Fishing Station.

JAMESPORT

Jamesport Bait & Tackle reports that blues from one to four pounds are being taken on small surgical tubes in the Bay and in the North and South Race. Porgies and weaks are in the Shelter Island area. Blacks can be picked up in rocky areas in the Sound. Bass with weak mixed in, are being caught at sunset



T.J. Guarino and John Sampson took these stripers at Marshall Field trolling worms at night. The fish ranged from 14 1/2 to 24 pounds. Photo courtesy of Ronnie's Bait and Tackle.

using sandworms or a small sinking rebel. Blacks and fluke can be caught off the beaches.

ROCKY POINT

The Rocky Point Fishing Stop reports that blacks are being caught in the North Shore rocky areas on crabs, sandworms and clams. Small porgies are being caught on the beach, and buoy 11 is producing the bigger ones. Night fishing for bass and weaks has slowed, but some bass to 12 1/2 lbs. and nice weakfish can still be caught.

SELDEN

Ken Freeman of the Anglers Den would like to announce the winners for his May fishing derby: Walter Lackel with a 9 lb. 10 oz. blackfish; Jo Marti with a 3 lb. 6 oz. fluke; M. Dill with a 35 lb. 6 oz. bass; R. Walinchus with a 10 lb. 8 oz. weakfish, and R. Corcorin with a 3 lb. 6 oz. flounder. Congratulations!

V. Willis took a 20 lb. 8 oz. bass in the Shinnecock area on a light bucktail with pork rind. Steve Kellner took a 7 lb. 12 oz. fluke on a high-low rig with squid in the Peconics.

Mike Gross took a 12 lb. 13 oz. blue on bucktails between Smiths Point and the Inlet. Weaks, porgies and blacks are being taken in the Sound.

PORT JEFFERSON

Capt. John Fisher of the Betty W reports the fishing good and steady. Highlighting the trips were the blackfish as evidenced by the Co-op City Anglers on Saturday. Some of the blacks taken that day ran as high as 9 1/2 pounds. The open boat "Janet Sea" ran out on Saturday and came back with over 100 blacks taken off Miller Place.

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Carafitis Fishing Station reports that weaks around eight or nine pounds are being caught at buoy 11 on worms with a high hook, jigging with diamonds and with bucktails with squid. Johnny Marero of Holbrook took a 12 lb. blue on a salty dog at buoy 11. Jim Hunt took a 9 lb. blue at buoy 11 on sand eels and squid while fluke fishing.

Frank Orlando and 11-year-old Michael Orioles took 14 weaks to 8 lbs. on Ava 27s by buoy 11. Porgies are doing good

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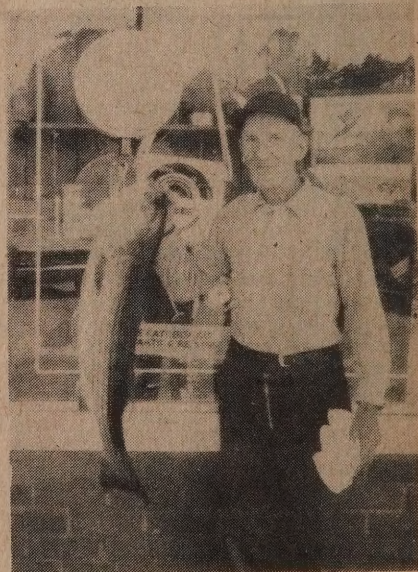
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Johnny Martin caught this 14 lb. 9 oz. striped bass from Pryble Beach using a light snapper rod and a Sidewinder lure. Photo courtesy of Glen Cove Sport Shop.



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Lucy Bradley took first prize with this 7 lb. blackfish and Kenny Baptiste and Henry Jensen shared 2nd place with a 6 lb. weakfish and a 6 lb. blackfish taken aboard the City Island party boat "Ebb Tide."

between buoy 11 and Mt. Misery Point, from one to two pounds. Some small porgies are being caught on the east side of the harbor. Sandworms are the best bait.

NORTHPORT

Tom at **Bowman's Sporting Goods** said the place for weakfishing is Valley Grove. Skindivers reported plenty of seven to ten pound weaks in the area along with some big fluke. Trollers are picking up some 10-20 pound bass on rigs or worms and spinners, working 500 yards off the C. G. Station in the evening. Porgies are in pretty good about one mile off Fort Salonga. There are some fish in a little closer at Sand City. Surfcasters are getting fish at Ashroken Beach. Best time is high water in the evening, with the top of the tide around 10 PM. The only fish not really around are blues. Some seven-ten pounders were picked up by the trollers; but fishing is spotty.

KINGS PARK

Bob at **Mae's Way Fishing Station** reports that the weekend was a good one for most fishermen. Bluefish made their first appearance in numbers, while weakfishing remains strong. The bottom scene produced some excellent porgie catches; fluke in small amounts, and a smattering of blacks and seabass. On Saturday, young Michael Herrmann cast a squid strip from the beach in hopes of catching a weakfish or fluke, and was delighted to come up with a three pound bass. Gary Holmes caught 17 weaks, from four to seven-and-a-half pounds, and a five pound blue, casting rebel plugs at dusk at Callahans Beach.

On Sunday, Marilyn Koliner came in with four fluke to 6½ lbs., taken off Macamah on squid strips and Hairy Hooks. Tina Sidney had a six pound fluke on a sand eel off of the Mansion. Louie Schwartz took 100 pounds of porgies off Callahans. Tackle man Mickey Chiarenza took one weak and 12 blues from three to five pounds, casting his own Tri-fin lures between Sunken Meadow and Callahans Beach at dusk on Sunday.

HUNTINGTON

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle reports some large bass taken at Huntington Inlet daytime on live bunker, most fish in the 20s. The big problem is finding bunker to get on the hook. Weakfish are mixed in with bass off Marshall Field from the beach. Best is just before dark, casting red eelworms or worms on a bottom rig. Some increased blackfish activity up to 9½ pounds off Eaton's and Callahans on clam and worm baits. Some fluke at Crabmeadow and Lloyd Pt. on drifted sandworms and squid. Porgies of all sizes off Sand City and buoy 4 at Marshall Fields.

George Valentine of **Four Winds Tackle** tells us of bass from 20 to 30 pounds being taken on live bunker from before the weekend right up to Sunday in

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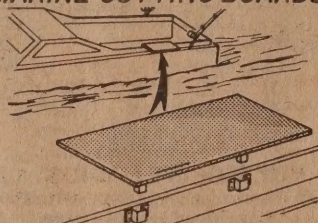
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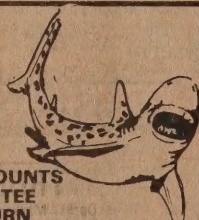
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(Continued from page 21.)

this is the dropper-popper rig. Today, this rig is rarely seen on the water, but at one time was a very popular, and effective rig as well.

The popper-dropper rig was merely a popping plug that had a bucktail jig trailing behind the plug body on a length of light mono leader. It was simple to make up. You would take a small popping plug and remove the tail treble hook. An eighteen or twenty inch length of 20 pound mono was attached to the plug's tail; to the other end of the mono, a small bucktail jig was attached.

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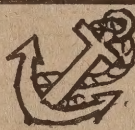
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2-\$193, 4-\$292, 6-\$398, 9.9 \$535, 15-\$588, 25-\$675, 35-\$780, 40-\$790, 55-\$1195, 70-\$1370, 85-\$1600, 115-\$1700, 135-\$1820, 200-\$2450. ELECTRA MARINE, 610 Merrick Road, Lynbrook, N.Y. Scott and McCulloch Parts. F.O.B. Call 516-599-3003.

1974 Wellcraft V-20' Cabin Fisherman, 120 h.p. Chrysler O/B. Two 20 gallon gas tanks; two deck fish wells. New canvas top and cover. Horn, head, bilge, compass, preservers, extinguisher, anchor, etc. New Battery. 1977 tune-up job. 1974 Shoreline 4 (14') wheel trailer, with brakes, spare, power winch. Quick sale price \$5,200. 212-456-8308 after 6PM.

27-1/2' Jersey Sportfisherman 1985 Chrysler 210. FWC. Flying Bridge, Sleeps 4. Ice box, galley, VHF. Depth finder, compasses, extra parts. Excellent condition. Bay Shore 516-865-8191.

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MAKO 23' I/O, 1973 Custom Tower with controls. 188 h.p. Mercruiser. Head, spray hood, outriggers, white line recorder, VHF, dual batteries, ball wall with overboard drains, bilge pump. Excellent condition. A fisherman's dream. Call 203-828-6044.

1988 32' Luhrs Flybridge Sedan. Wood hull. Fiberglass bridge. Sleeps six. Repowered in 1978. 360 Chrysler. Bimini top, VHF radio-phone, depth finder, compass, bilge pump, bilge blower & prop. All new in 1978. Very good condition. Must sell. \$8500 or best offer. 516-589-8905.

24' Zubeck Skiff '68, Palmer V-8, recorder, VHF, fighting chair, outriggers, custom bow cover, winter canvas, 2 anchors, 104 gal. gas and extra. A serious fishing machine. \$5000. 924-5651.

29' Dwyer Craft Spit. Fish. Diesel powered. Documented 8 pos. Enclosed self-contained head. Flybridge. Auto. pilot. Fish box, fighting chair. Rod rack for 12 rods. 6 rod holders. Pulpit glnpole, spare prop. Strobe light. Tackle cabinet. Outriggers. K50 speed indicator. Running water, ice box, stove, hanging locker, tackle drawers. 203-346-0388.

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Johnson 9.9 - \$295; Evinrude 15 - \$175; Johnson 20 - \$325; Evinrude 35 - \$175; Johnson 40 - \$325; Evinrude 40 - \$350. Call us about our LOW, LOW repair costs too! FOX HOLLOW MARINE, INC., 809 New York Avenue, Huntington, N.Y. 516-271-4276.

Sears doublewall 2 air chamber inflatable. 3 h.p. motor. Extra Prop. Foot pump. Used 10 hours. Boat, motor excellent. \$250 or trade for good paper recorder. 516-888-4855.

1970 22' CHRIS CRAFT CUTLASS, Fiberglass, 230 h.p. Inboard, VHF, Apeldo depth recorder, head, Vee berths, locking cuddy cabin. Excellent running condition. In water at Montauk. \$8000. 212-532-7911, Ext. 7: 10-5. 212-734-4007 After 6:00.

1975 SUPER GAMEFISHER, 12', all Fiberglass. Includes: gas tank, oars, life preservers and anchor. EXCELLENT COND. Also 1975 Mercury Outboard Motor. Only 20 hrs. use. \$550. 212-378-3056.

1976 Mako 17' Evinrude 85 h.p. Power tilt and trim. Compass and bilge pump. Very clean. 30 hours with trailer. Bimini top and front curtain. Dockage paid. \$5000 or best offer. 212-338-0907.

32' Knutson 1952 Offshore Police Cruiser. Completely rebuilt Internationals by Travelers. New controls, instruments, tankage. Solid Teak decks. Needs some gear. In Freeport. Need cash immediately. MAKE OFFER. 212-584-8071. Eves.

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T-craft 21' "Playboy" family/fishing, 100 Johnson, Holsclaw 4-wheel brake trailer, all 1972. V-berths, folding sleeper seats, Navy top, side curtains, tachometer, speedometer, compass, SS tanks 40 gallons, fish well, rod holders and more. Excellent. \$4200. 516-581-3718.

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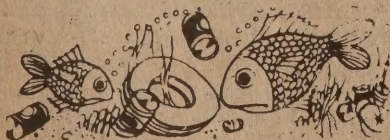
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Jude Drouin of the NY Islanders and Joe "Pepe" Argiro display part of their catch of weakfish at Mae's Way Fishing Station.

Huntington Bay. Bass up to 38 pounds are being taken off Marshall Field trolling worms. Weaks up to 8 pounds are being caught off Lightwood Pt. and Duck Island drifting worms on a hi-hook. Fishing for blacks and fluke is still spotty. Blacks have been picked up from 4 to 8 pounds at Morris Rock and Sand City.

GLEN COVE

Glen Cove Sports reports that some small bass are being taken in the early morning on the moving tide from Davidsons to Hempstead Harbor up to 20 pounds. Weakfishing in the area is sporadic around Matinecock Pt. Blackfishing is good in Matinecock Pt. on the moving water. Fluke are beginning to show in the area. Morgan breakwater is producing blackfish at the dead low tide using fiddlers and green crabs. A few flounder are still available if you want them.

CITY ISLAND

Jack at Jack's Bait & Tackle said the blackfishing is good, with fish up to eight pounds weighed in so far. Pretty good numbers of school bass taken on worms and the green Rebel, over in Turtle Cove. Some weaks from five-eight pounds hitting worms in the same spot. Still a few flounders around and a couple mackerel were seen up on top, but everyone is figuring that run of fish is done for the year.

NEW ROCHELLE

Capt. Pete Pearson of the Klondike VI said he's now fishing for porgies and blackfish, plus a few flounders plus a few big weakfish. All the action has been over on the Long Island side. Pete heard about good bodies of bluefish coming up the Coast, so he's hoping for a good summer season.

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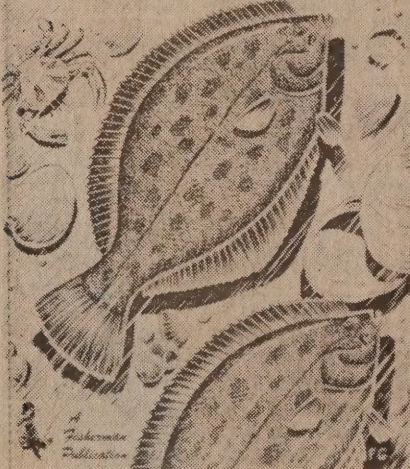
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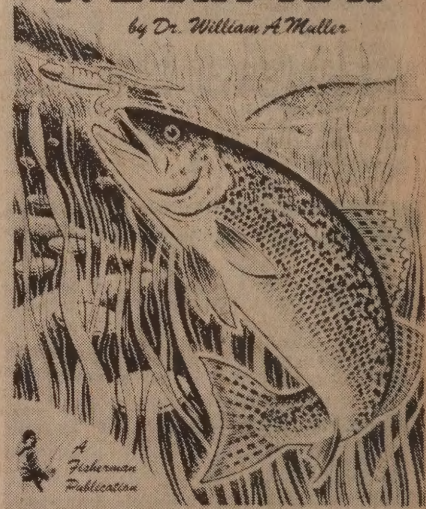
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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK		Breakwater Harbor		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEW-PORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THUR.	2:39	3:12	3:42	4:24	3:24	4:03	4:36	5:13	7:08	7:35	6:17	6:48	2:39	3:19	6/9
FRI.	3:35	4:07	4:41	5:19	4:19	4:59	5:36	6:09	8:05	8:30	7:15	7:43	3:35	4:12	6/10
SAT.	4:30	4:59	5:37	6:10	5:17	5:50	6:34	6:58	9:00	9:21	8:11	8:34	4:32	5:07	6/11
SUN.	5:18	5:45	6:28	6:54	6:13	6:39	7:23	7:41	9:51	10:07	9:05	9:23	5:28	5:54	6/12
MON.	6:06	6:30	7:15	7:36	7:00	7:22	8:07	8:20	10:38	10:49	9:53	10:06	6:18	6:40	6/13
TUE.	6:51	7:12	7:56	8:15	7:48	8:04	8:46	8:57	11:20	11:26	10:38	10:46	7:03	7:21	6/14
WED.	7:36	7:54	8:37	8:52	8:30	8:42	9:24	9:33	11:57	11:54	11:20	11:29	7:46	7:58	6/15
THUR.	8:17	8:35	9:15	9:30	9:10	9:19	10:03	10:09	—	12:26	—	12:00	8:25	8:35	6/16

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....-0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." -0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 1/2 hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	- 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R. I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	- 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	- 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	- 0 12
Seaside Park	- 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	- 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beech Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	- 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	- 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	- 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	- 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	- 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	- 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	- 0 38
Democrat Point	- 0 38
Coast Guard Station	- 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	- 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	- 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	- 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	- 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	- 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	- 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	- 0 08
Herod Point	- 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	- 0 20
Truman Beach	- 0 42
Falkner Island	- 0 13
Sachem Head	- 0 10
Branford Harbor	- 0 07
New Haven Harbor	- 0 08
Millford Harbor	- 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	- 0 03
Saugatuck River	- 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	- 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	- 0 14
Montauk Inlet	- 0 25
Montauk Point	- 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	- 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	- 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	- 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	- 0 10
Execution Light	- 0 06
Manhasset Bay	- 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	- 0 11
City Island	- 0 03
Rye Beach	- 0 28
Port Chester	- 0 09
Mamaroneck	- 0 08
New Rochelle	- 0 24
Dauids Island	- 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	- 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	- 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Misplillon River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spytten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	- 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	- 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	- 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	- 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	- 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

6/5	5:25	8:32
6/10	5:24	8:35
6/15	5:24	8:37
6/20	5:24	8:39
6/25	5:25	8:40
6/30	5:27	8:40

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
			
6/16	6/24	6/1	6/8



The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
THURS.	—	6:25	12:25	6:50
FRI.	12:35	7:05	1:05	7:30
SAT.	1:15	7:45	1:45	8:10
SUN.	1:55	8:30	2:25	8:50
MON.	2:40	9:10	3:00	9:30
TUES.	3:20	9:50	3:45	10:15
WED.	4:00	10:35	4:30	11:00
THURS.	4:45	11:20	5:15	11:45

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test line
capacity.

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reg.
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Daiwa GS-6

Heavy salt water. Fast
4.7 to 1 ratio. 225 yd.
20 lb. test line
capacity.

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reg.
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Daiwa GS-2

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medium fresh. 4.1
to 1 gear ratio.
Approx. 260 yd.
10 lb. test
line capacity.

24⁹⁹
reg.
34.99

**Save
\$12**

Daiwa GS-1

Light freshwater. 5.4
to 1 ratio. 160 yd.
6 lb. test line
capacity. Right/left
hand retrieve.

22⁹⁹
reg.
34.99

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